

Who Ordered Town's Bombing? / Survivors Seek Answers From Madrid

Guernica Accepts German Apology but Awaits Another

By Marlies Simons
New York Times Service

GUERNICA, Spain — Inaki Arzane, like others of his generation, can still speak with strong emotion of that spring day when Guernica was destroyed. It was a Monday, market day, and many farmers and their animals had come to town.

From the hillside where he and his friends were playing, they heard the church bells peal the alarm. What happened next on the afternoon of April 26, 1937, gave this small Basque town its sorrowful place in history and inspired Picasso's most disturbing painting.

About 4 o'clock, Hitler's warplanes, helping Franco in the Spanish Civil War, came diving over Guernica's crowded center and pounded it with explosive and incendiary bombs. The Heinkel and Junkers planes wiped out most of the medieval town and killed hundreds.

"There was a sea of flames, and I couldn't find my home," said Mr. Arzane, who was 14 then. "People were screaming. Everything was bombed or burning. I remember the moon was bright red."

Memories of that pandemonium come back every springtime. But this year is different. In this era of apologies, Guernica has been offered repentance from its aggressors. No sooner than 61 years after the event, the German Parliament has sent a formal apology.

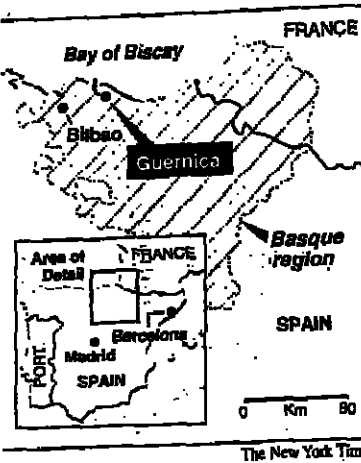
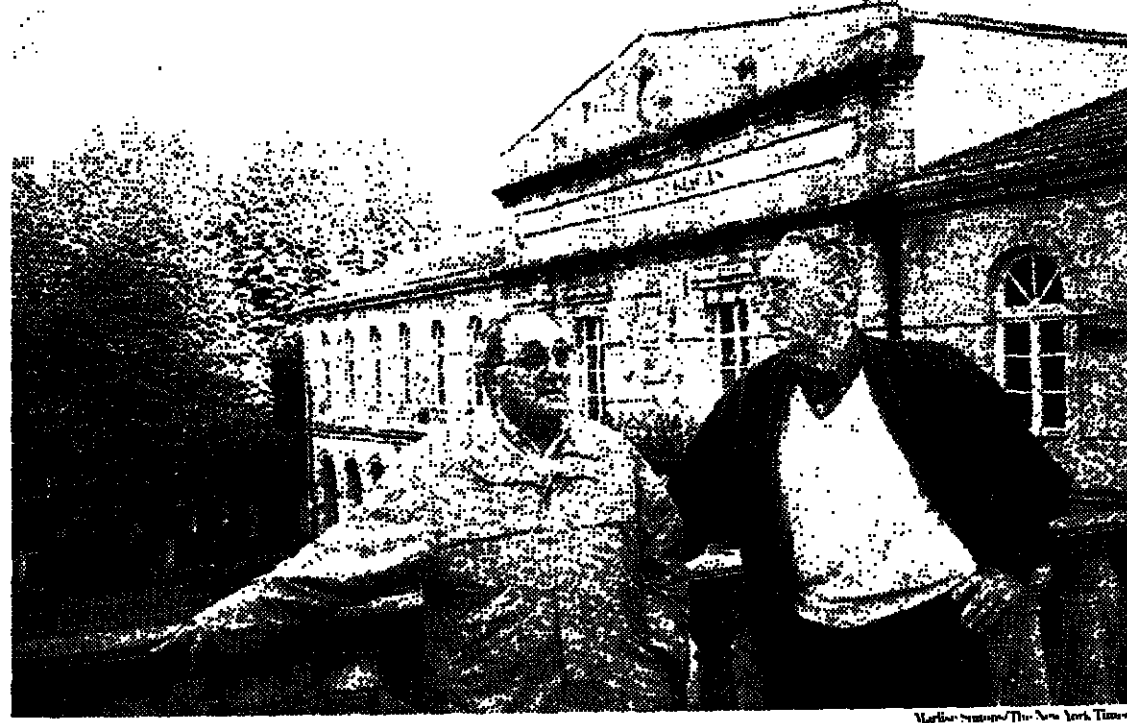
In a declaration adopted on April 24, it recognizes the role of "German pilots of the Condor Legion in the destruction of the town" and says it "endorses the apology" sent by President Roman Herzog a year ago. Parliament also said it would change the names of German military barracks that are still named after members of the Condor Legion.

Guernica has taken the message from Bonn in stride. It was read out before a gathering of survivors, who listened to it silently during a commemorative ceremony on April 26.

Guernica's mayor, Eduardo Vallejo, said the message was late but positive. "We live in a time of gestures, of people saying sorry as we get to the end of the century," he said. "So we also received some gestures."

To be sure, other cities have suffered far more during warfare. But Guernica entered the world's vocabulary because of Picasso's tumultuous portrait and because this was history's first air bombardment of an undefended town, aimed solely at terrorizing civilians.

Yet this small town, set between lush mountains and the sea, has gradually made its peace



Inaki Arzane, left, with Luis Iriondo, survivors of the firebombing of Guernica by the German Luftwaffe in 1937, in front of the town's school, which was spared during the raid.

with Germany and made the bombardment part of its identity.

But Guernica's real unfinished business is not with Bonn or Berlin, but with Madrid. And rather than being about remorse, this is about the purging value of truth.

Franco never admitted that his forces, with the help of Nazi and Italian pilots, destroyed the Basque town. He asserted instead that leftist Basque radicals had themselves set fire to it. The official lie, imposed by censorship, forced Guernica to live with its horrendous secret and compounded its pain. The anger over it still endures.

"It was like a pressure cooker here," the mayor said of Franco's authoritarian rule, which lasted until his death in 1975. "We could only talk about the 'events' or the 'fires,' because saying the word 'bombing' was subversive."

Luis Iriondo, another survivor who can still speak of the drone of the planes and the eerie blue light of the firebombs as though the air raid happened yesterday, concurred.

"The German apology is all right," he said. "With that they admitted the truth. Now the German Parliament has done what the Spanish Parliament and the Spanish military never did."

Today's history books tell a more accurate story. But a group of citizens who have created a small war museum want access to the Spanish military archives in Madrid. The mayor said he and others had repeatedly asked the military but never received a reply. The mayor also wants a formal apology from the Spanish Parliament.

ONE ISSUE that has dogged historians is whether Franco's forces authorized the intense bombing or whether Germans went far beyond a Spanish request to cut off a road and a bridge.

"We want to know what instructions the pilots had," said Juan Gutierrez, the head of a local peace foundation.

The small stone bridge was never hit, yet the town was firebombed. The number of dead was never established. Estimates range from a few hundred to more than 1,600. Records were seized as Franco's troops arrived three days later.

Since the war, Guernica has rebuilt and grown into a town of 15,000 people who live off small industries, farming and trade. Germany is paying \$1.9 million toward a new sports center as a "gesture of peace."

Tourists stroll under the arcades and visit the sites that were saved, including the remains of the famous oak tree where the ancient Basque Parliament met and Spanish monarchs would come and swear to respect Basque rights. People here believe that Guernica was chosen as a target because it is a sacred place for the Basques.

Then there is the continuing tug-of-war over Picasso's "Guernica." The town has asked to borrow it from the Queen Sofia Art Center in Madrid, because people here see the painting not as the world-famous portrait of catastrophe but as their own emblem.

"In the years we couldn't talk, many people had a copy of the painting in their home as a quiet protest," said Mr. Iriondo, a painter himself. "We have written to Queen Sofia to help bring it here. This is its moral home."

The new Guggenheim Museum in nearby Bilbao fought to show the painting at its inauguration last fall, but it, too, was rebuffed. The reason given was that the enormous painting was too fragile to travel. But the suspicion lingers that Madrid will not let it go because it fears that once the painting goes to the Basque region, it may become politically difficult to return it to Madrid.

In Bulgaria, Tiny Handguns Are Easy to Get

By Joseph Fitchett
International Herald Tribune

SOFIA — For an ordinary tourist — or a terrorist — few things could be easier in Bulgaria than buying a tiny handgun that looks like a key chain flashlight and can kill a man at close range.

To get directions to a gun shop, all a journalist needed to do one day this week was ask the concierge at a hotel, the local flagship of a prestigious international chain frequented by well-heeled tourists and business people.

It was a five-minute walk to Pirotska Street, largely indistinguishable from other shopping streets in central Sofia with its broken curbs and myriad shops advertising in the Cyrillic script of the Bulgarian language. One sign stood out

because it carried the English words "Winchester" and "Beretta."

In the store's showcase, only one item was priced in dollars: a tiny black metal handgun that fit easily into an adult's palm. Resembling a pocket flashlight, these two-shot guns are deceptive enough to escape safety checks at some airports or public buildings, U.S. officials fear, making them potential terrorist weapons.

For \$25, a journalist was able to buy one of these two-shot weapons, together with two .32-caliber cartridges and instructions in Bulgarian. No other formalities were involved.

The dealer — like one of his colleagues across town in a more upscale neighborhood on General Skobelev Boulevard — explained that these pistols were made for self-defense using

tear gas or blanks. The pistol also comes with a device enabling it to fire flares as a distress signal and is delivered with pins in the muzzle to block a bullet leaving the barrel.

But a Western expert said that the pins could be easily removed to make the device into "a lethal weapon." The pistol is cocked by twisting a ring at one end, then fired by pressing buttons on top of the barrels.

In a terrorist's hands, this weapon would be of limited value, the expert continued, because security guards ought to spot it as a gun, especially after a spate of recent publicity. Its metal content is too high to pass through a metal detector without setting off alarms, he said, so it can only get through security if passed off as a key ring or something similar.

Bulgarian newspapers have published pictures of pens that fire a single bullet using the same miniaturized technology, but these devices, which sound like gadgets provided to James Bond, have not surfaced in commercial markets.

"The biggest demand for these guns is in Macedonia," a Sofia newspaper said Monday, without providing any statistics. The implication was that the miniature guns could be useful in the civil strife, verging on civil war, that has broken out in Kosovo, the troubled Yugoslav



A man in Sofia with a \$10 pen gun.

Province whose ethnic tensions threaten to spill over into Macedonia, Bulgaria's neighbor.

27 Lawmakers In Japan Hail Film on Tojo, War Criminal

By Sonni Efron
Los Angeles Times Service

TOKYO — In a gesture likely to trigger fresh acrimony between Japan and its Asian neighbors, 27 conservative lawmakers from the governing Liberal Democratic Party have warmly endorsed a new movie about General Hideki Tojo, the Japanese prime minister who was tried and executed as a war criminal after World War II.

Japanese and foreign critics say that the film "Pride: A Fateful Moment," which is scheduled to open here May 23, glorifies General Tojo and portrays the invasion of Asia as a just campaign by Japan to liberate its neighbors from Western colonial rule.

"Hideki Tojo was the chief criminal of that war of aggression," the Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman, Zhu Bangzao, said Saturday. "We feel shocked and indignant over the fact that some people in Japan produced such a movie to whitewash aggression." North Korea also condemned the film.

Still, the guest list for Monday's screening of the Toei studio's \$11 million epic included prominent members of the Liberal Democratic Party's right wing. Seven of the lawmakers — including at least two former cabinet ministers and the son of a war criminal executed with General Tojo — held a news conference after the screening to endorse the film-makers' view that the Tokyo war-crimes trials, conducted by the Allies, were grossly unfair and a vehicle for imposing the victors' predetermined judgments on the vanquished.

A lawmaker, Masahiro Koga, said that he could not say whether atrocities were committed in Nanjing, where the Chinese say 300,000 men, women and children were massacred by Japanese soldiers. "The most important thing is to recognize that there are a lot of different interpretations of history," Mr. Koga asserted.

Another Liberal Democratic Party member, Kenzo Yoneda, said that the war-crimes tribunal, which concluded in 1948, should be reconvened in an international court. "Japan was made out to be the only villain in the war, but that doesn't mean it should be declared to have been entirely in the wrong either," Mr. Yoneda said.

He and other lawmakers suggested that the U.S. firebombing of Tokyo and atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki should also be treated as war crimes.

General Tojo attempted suicide but eventually was hanged in 1948 after his conviction by an international tribunal that found him to be the architect of the Japanese wartime campaign, particularly in Southeast Asia and China.

Repeated episodes in which Japanese officials have attempted to minimize or deny wartime misdeeds have outraged the Chinese, Koreans and other Asians for decades. But recently, Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto has tried to mend fences. Last year, he toured a war museum in Manchuria, the region of northeastern China that was once a Japanese colony, and apologized for the pain that Japan had caused there.

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TRAVEL UPDATE

New EU Fight Over Duty-Free

BRUSSELS (Reuters) — European Union finance ministers will come under renewed pressure Tuesday to reconsider the 1999 end to duty-free sales in the bloc.

Ireland, reflecting its dependence on air and sea transport, said it would raise the issue at the ministers' meeting. It wants to force the European

Commission to study how the abolition of duty-free sales next year will affect jobs. Separately, the Federation of Transport Unions — fearing for members' jobs — plans to mount a vigil at the Brussels building where ministers will meet.

Worn 737 Parts

WASHINGTON (AP) — Inspectors examining grounded Boeing 737s are still finding a significant number of worn fuel pump tubes, some exposing frayed wiring, the Federal Aviation Administration reported.

As of Monday night, 192 fuel pump tubes on 96 planes had been inspected. Half showed signs of wire abrasion of some degree; the agency reported chafing in 50 of the metal tubes — six of them down to bare wire.

Italian gas station attendants planned Tuesday to strike through early Friday in protest against planned closings of stations. (Reuters)

WEATHER

Forecast for Thursday through Saturday, as provided by AccuWeather.

Europe

Country	Today	Tomorrow	Day After
Algeria	17-25	18-26	19-27
Andorra	17-25	18-26	19-27
Austria	17-25	18-26	19-27
Belgium	17-25	18-26	19-27
Bulgaria	17-25	18-26	19-27
Croatia	17-25	18-26	19-27
Czechia	17-25	18-26	19-27
Denmark	17-25	18-26	19-27
Egypt	17-25	18-26	19-27
Finland	17-25	18-26	19-27
France	17-25	18-26	19-27
Germany	17-25	18-26	19-27
Greece	17-25	18-26	19-27
Hungary	17-25	18-26	19-27
Ireland	17-25	18-26	19-27
Italy	17-25	18-26	19-27
Japan	17-25	18-26	19-27
Korea	17-25	18-26	19-27
Latvia	17-25	18-26	19-27
Lithuania	17-25	18-26	19-27
Malta	17-25	18-26	19-27
Netherlands	17-25	18-26	19-27
Norway	17-25	18-26	19-27
Poland	17-25	18-26	19-27
Portugal	17-25	18-26	19-27
Romania	17-25	18-26	19-27
Russia	17-25	18-26	19-27
Slovakia	17-25	18-26	19-27
Slovenia	17-25	18-26	19-27
Spain	17-25	18-26	19-27
Sweden	17-25	18-26	19-27
Switzerland	17-25	18-26	19-27
Taiwan	17-25	18-26	19-27
Turkey	17-25	18-26	19-27
Ukraine	17-25	18-26	19-27
USA	17-25	18-26	19-27
UK	17-25	18-26	19-27

North America

Country	Today	Tomorrow	Day After
Alaska	17-25	18-26	19-27
Arizona	17-25	18-26	19-27
Arkansas	17-25	18-26	19-27
California	17-25	18-26	19-27
Colorado	17-25	18-26	19-27
Connecticut	17-25	18-26	19-27
Delaware	17-25	18-26	19-27
District of Columbia	17-25	18-26	19-27
Florida	17-25	18-26	19-27
Georgia	17-25	18-26	19-27
Hawaii	17-25	18-26	19-27
Idaho	17-25	18-26	19-27
Illinois	17-25	18-26	19-27
Indiana	17-25	18-26	19-27
Iowa	17-25	18-26	19-27
Kansas	17-25	18-26	19-27
Kentucky	17-25	18-26	19-27
Louisiana	17-25	18-26	19-27
Maine	17-25	18-26	19-27
Maryland	17-25	18-26	19-27
Massachusetts	17-25	18-26	19-27
Michigan	17-25	18-26	19-27
Minnesota	17-25	18-26	19-27
Mississippi	17-25	18-26	19-27
Missouri	17-25	18-26	19-27
Montana	17-25	18-26	19-27
Nebraska	17-25	18-26	19-27
Nevada	17-25	18-26	19-27
New Hampshire	17-25	18-26	19-27
New Jersey	17-25	18-26	19-27
New Mexico	17-25	18-26	19-27
New York	17-25	18-26	19-27
North Carolina	17-25	18-26	19-27
North Dakota	17-25	18-26	19-27
Ohio	17-25	18-26	19-27
Oklahoma	17-25	18-26	19-27
Oregon	17-25	18-26	19-27
Pennsylvania	17-25	18-26	19-27
Rhode Island	17-25	18-26	19-27
South Carolina	17-25	18-26	19-27
South Dakota	17-25	18-26	19-27
Tennessee	17-25	18-26	19-27
Texas	17-25	18-26	19-27
Vermont	17-25	18-26	19-27
Virginia	17-25	18-26	19-27
Washington	17-25	18-26	19-27
West Virginia	17-25	18-26	19-27
Wisconsin	17-25	18-26	19-27
Wyoming	17-25	18-26	19-27

Asia

Country	Today	Tomorrow	Day After
Albania	17-25	18-26	19-27
Armenia	17-25	18-26	19-27
Azerbaijan	17-25	18-26	19-27
Bahrain	17-25	18-26	19-27
Bangladesh	17-25	18-26	19-27
Belarus	17-25	18-26	19-27
Bhutan	17-25	18-26	19-27
Bolivia	17-25	18-26	19-27
Brazil	17-25	18-26	19-27
Bulgaria	17-25	18-26	19-27
Cameroon	17-25	18-26	19-27
Canada	17-25	18-26	19-27
Chad	17-25	18-26	19-27
China	17-25	18-26	19-27
Colombia	17-25	18-26	19-27
Congo	17-25	18-26	19-27
Cuba	17-25	18-26	19-27
Cyprus	17-25	18-26	19-27
Czechia	17-25	18-26	19-27
Dominican Republic	17-25	18-26	19-27
Dominica	17-25	18-26	19-27
Ecuador	17-25	18-26	19-27
Egypt	17-25	18-26	19-27
El Salvador	17-25	18-26	19-27
Equatorial Guinea	17-25	18-26	19-27
Eritrea	17-25	18-26	19-27
Estonia	17-25	18-26	19-27
Finland	17-25	18-26	19-27
France	17-25	18-26	19-27
Gabon	17-25	18-26	19-27
Gambia	17-25	18-26	19-27
Germany	17-25	18-26	19-27
Ghana	17-25	18-26	19-27
Greece	17-25	18-26	19-27
Guatemala	17-25	18-26	19-27
Honduras	17-25	18-26	19-27
Hungary	17-25	18-26	19-27
India	17-25	18-26	19-27
Indonesia	17-25	18-26	19-27
Israel	17-25	18-26	19-27
Italy	17-25	18-26	19-27
Japan	17-25	18-26	19-27
Jordan	17-25	18-26	19-27
Kazakhstan	17-25	18-26	19-27
Kenya	17-25	18-26	19-27
Korea	17-25	18-26	19-27
Kuwait	17-25	18-26	19-27
Latvia	17-25	18-26	19-27
Lithuania	17-25	18-26	19-27
Madagascar	17-25	18-26	19-27
Malawi	17-25	18-26	19-27
Malaysia	17-25	18-26	19-27
Maldives	17-25	18-26	19-27
Mali	17-25	18-26	19-27
Malta	17-25	18-26	19-27
Mexico	17-25	18-26	19-27
Moldova	17-25	18-26	19-

THE AMERICAS

A Chastened Jeb Bush Makes 2d Attempt to Become Florida's Governor



Jeb Bush presenting his low-key platform to Jewish Democrats in Miami.

By Mireya Navarro
New York Times Service

MIAMI — Leaning into the microphone before a rapt audience of about 125 people, Jeb Bush related how he went through a midlife crisis after losing the Florida governor's race in 1994 and emerged a better man.

"I have been changed in the last four years," he said. "I started listening more."

Mr. Bush had come to Temple Israel here to address a gathering of Jewish Democrats, not exactly a support group for a Republican baring his soul. But in his second bid for the governorship, Mr. Bush, a Miami businessman and the son of former President George Bush, seems to have undergone a transformation.

He is reaching "outside my comfort zone," as he puts it, to groups he might have ignored in the past, toning down conservative talk and staying away from divisive issues.

So while in 1994 Mr. Bush flaunted a hard-edge conservative stance by advocating cuts in welfare, locking up criminals for longer periods and dismantling the Education Department, this year he visits schools and shelters for abused women to talk about raising public school standards, restoring "compassion" to child welfare services and extending a state land-acquisition program for environmental protection.

After losing in 1994 by the narrowest margin in a governor's race in Florida's history, to Governor Lawton Chiles, a Democrat, John Ellis Bush, 45, is determined to do it right this time and extend his family's political dynasty. He has a formidable lead in the polls, no primary opposition so far and three times the campaign money raised by his closest Democratic rival.

He is, in short, well on his way to completing a Republican takeover of state government in the fourth most populous state, solidifying his party's preeminence in the South. With his brother, Governor George Bush of Texas, considered a likely contender for the Republican presidential nomination in 2000, Jeb Bush could also be setting the stage for one of the more extraordinary family acts in American political history.

Florida is a rich prize in the Republican presidential primary season, and the support of its governor is a great advantage for those who seek it. And as Jeb Bush put it, "It would be a shock if a brother didn't support a brother."

Few expect his current, 18-point lead in the polls to hold for the six months to Election Day, and Mr. Bush himself, perhaps remembering the lead he lost in 1994, says he is campaigning as if he were 10 points down.

Still, in the words of former State Senator Rick Dastzler, one of three

Democrats vying to challenge him, Mr. Bush at the moment is "as strong as 20 acres of onion."

Despite the high stakes, 1998 finds the Democrats in Florida with a faltering front-runner for the party's nomination, a serious rift with black political leaders and with what some experts say appears to be a defeatist attitude.

Last week, the Florida Democratic Party's chairwoman for the last five years, Terrie Brady, resigned in a move seen by political experts as a way to appease those who blamed her for the party's troubles.

The leader among the three Democratic candidates in the September primary, Lieutenant Governor Kenneth MacKay, is on a continuing slide in early polls, trailing Mr. Bush 35 percent to 53 percent in the latest poll, last month.

As of March, Mr. MacKay had raised \$2.1 million, less than half the \$6.3 million in Mr. Bush's campaign coffers.

More significantly for Mr. MacKay, many Democratic leaders are openly questioning his ability to win.

"They're running scared," said Richard Scher, a political scientist at the University of Florida. "At this point it's really Mr. Bush's campaign to lose."

The biggest problem for the Democrats has been a revolt in their own ranks. It erupted after Democratic state legislators last January kept State Representative Willie Logan from being in

line to become the first black speaker of the Florida House.

To many black political leaders, the incident showed that the party was not willing to share power with them and, worse, that it took one of its most loyal constituencies for granted.

Since then, a wide group of black political and civic leaders has encouraged black voters to become "free agents" and made Mr. Bush, who received only 6 percent of the black vote in 1994, a regular at their dinners and receptions.

"We need to be involved in both parties," said Mary Hooks, a West Palm Beach city commissioner and black Democrat who serves as a vice chairwoman in Mr. Bush's campaign. "The window of opportunity is now open for Jeb Bush."

But Mr. Bush has a delicate line to tread in trying to reconcile the interests of such diverse constituencies as blacks, economic conservatives who are also social liberals, like Cubans, and Christian conservatives, who are a powerhouse in Florida's Republican Party.

So far, Mr. Bush's strategy, in a state where Democrats still barely lead Republicans in voter registration, and where many women of both parties object to his stance against abortion, has been to try to broaden his appeal and stay away from issues "that are a lot of heat and not enough light," like affirmative action.

POLITICAL NOTES

High-Tech Visas All Gone

WASHINGTON — The Immigration and Naturalization Service has stopped issuing visas for temporary high-tech workers, saying that it has reached the category's annual limit.

Senator Spencer Abraham, Republican of Michigan and sponsor of a bill to address what he calls a "critical shortage of high-tech workers," said that the announcement made passage of his measure "urgent" and that he hoped for a vote this week. But the Clinton administration opposes raising the cap without also reforming the visa program for these foreign employees to protect U.S. workers and provide more training for Americans seeking entry into high-tech fields.

Moreover, groups representing U.S. technology workers say that reports of a labor shortage have been vastly exaggerated by employers who want to use immigration to hold down wages.

The visa program, called H-1B, allows as many as 65,000 skilled foreign workers to enter the United States every year on "temporary" visas valid for up to six years.

Unless legislation raises the cap, the Immigration and Naturalization Service said, employers now may petition for new H-1B workers only if their employment begins on or after Oct. 1, when a new 65,000 visa limit takes effect with the start of fiscal 1999. Mr. Abraham says his bill would raise the cap to 105,000 over the next five years and

provide 20,000 college scholarships for low-income students. Opponents say the complex proposal would raise the cap to 115,000 a year starting in 1999, because it would add unused visas from other categories to the allotment for high-tech workers. (WP)

Targeting International Crime

WASHINGTON — Calling for "a global community of crime fighters," President Bill Clinton proposed Tuesday a series of steps to control the threat from international terrorism, drug trafficking, illegal immigration and money laundering.

"International crime requires an international response," Mr. Clinton said. "America is prepared to act alone when it must, but no nation can control crime by itself anymore." (AP)

Quote/Unquote

James Rubin, the State Department spokesman, when asked about the view of pundits that Secretary of State Madeleine Albright had given mixed signals in the administration's Middle East policy: "The pundits have to pundit and they have to earn a living writing things they know nothing about and, in this case, they don't know what they're talking about." (HT)

Reno Asks for 7th Independent Counsel

New Prosecutor to Investigate Charges Against Labor Secretary Herman

By Roberto Suro
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Attorney General Janet Reno has requested the appointment of an independent counsel to investigate allegations that Labor Secretary Alexis Herman took part in an influence-peddling scheme while he served as a White House aide during President Bill Clinton's first term.

The decision followed what senior officials characterized as an agonized weeklong debate within the Justice Department about whether to recommend an outside prosecutor. A preliminary inquiry found some corroboration for the allegations but, as Ms. Reno put it Monday, "no evidence clearly demonstrating Secretary Herman's involvement."

The move by Ms. Reno, which came only minutes before the attorney general's deadline to make her recommendation to the special three-judge panel

that oversees independent counsels, marks the seventh time Ms. Reno has sought an outside counsel to investigate alleged wrongdoing by Mr. Clinton or a senior administration official.

Laurent Yene, an African businessman, set the inquiry in motion by claiming that Ms. Herman accepted cash and consulting fees in exchange for arranging access to the White House and doing other favors for businessmen needing help from the federal government. Mr. Yene also alleged that Ms. Herman sought illegal campaign contributions from those businessmen to assure favorable treatment.

Ms. Herman called the allegations "false from the very beginning" and told reporters: "I am very disappointed and extremely baffled by this decision today." In a statement, President Clinton said, "I am confident that in the end, investigators will also conclude that Ms. Herman did nothing wrong."

During a probe lasting 150 days, the maximum permitted by law, Justice officials were unable to resolve the credibility of Mr. Yene's allegations but Ms. Reno decided that she was obliged to seek an outside investigation and noted that certain aspects of Mr. Yene's story had been corroborated.

The independent counsel process was created after the Watergate scandal to prevent an attorney general from investigating senior officials of the same administration. Unless a preliminary investigation can show conclusively that allegations are false, an attorney general must seek an independent counsel.

The memorandum on the case to Ms. Reno from the department's public integrity section recommended requesting an independent counsel, but in a sign of an unusual strong internal debate, it also included a section arguing the opposite view, according to a department official.

Smoke From Mexico Drifts Over the U.S.

The Associated Press

MIAMI — Smoke from thousands of forest fires raging in southeastern Mexico drifted nearly 2,000 miles, shrouding skylines from Miami to the Mississippi Delta.

"For the last four days, the smoke has been spreading out over the Gulf of Mexico and hooking up into the central and southeastern United States," said Joseph Prospero, director of the Cooperative Institute for Marine and Atmospheric Studies at the University of Miami.

"There is a substantial amount of smoke in our air," he said, but added that the soot was probably too high above the ground to affect people's breathing or register on pollution monitors.

The fires were started in January by farmers clearing land. Arsonists, too, are blamed for some of the more than 9,000 separate blazes that have swept through about 550,000 acres (220,000 hectares).

Anti-Missile System Goes 0-for-5

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon's missile defense system failed a fifth attempt to intercept a target on Tuesday.

The Theater High-Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD system, built by Lockheed Martin Corp., failed to intercept a target in a flight test at White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico, the Pentagon said.

It appeared to be caused by a booster rocket problem.

"Preliminary investigation indicates that the THAAD missile lost control shortly after launch," the statement said.

The interceptor missile and target debris landed on the missile range, the statement said.

"Analysis of the flight data is under way to determine the cause of the malfunction," the statement added.

The failure is a major blow to the THAAD program, which has been struggling to prove it could be used

to defend U.S. troops in the field against missile attack.

"This was the fifth flight test — zero-for-five," said a Pentagon official.

The THAAD system is designed to provide U.S. forces in the field protection from attack by Scud and other short- and medium-range missiles. Its technology involves "hitting a bullet with a bullet," a technical challenge the program's designers and managers have so far failed to meet.

THAAD is designed to provide broader defensive coverage than the Patriot missile system first used in the 1991 Gulf War. The failure could have implications beyond theater missile defense and affect debate over development of a national missile defense shield.

Senate Republicans, impatient with the pace of the Pentagon's efforts to develop a national missile defense system, are pressing to com-

mit the nation to such a shield even before the technology is fully developed.

The legislation, which already has 50 sponsors in the chamber, drew the strong opposition of the Clinton administration and its Senate allies, who are threatening to block the bill through delaying tactics.

The bill by Senators Thad Cochran, Republican of Mississippi, and Daniel Inouye, Democrat of Hawaii, has wide Republican support. It would direct the Pentagon to deploy such a system as soon as technology permitted.

The administration's present program requires identifying an emerging ballistic missile threat first; then, if necessary, three years would be provided to put the program into effect.

Critics argued that the legislation would commit the United States to deploy a technology that has not yet been developed.

Away From Politics

• The FBI reported that 64 law enforcement officers were murdered in the line of duty nationwide last year, up from 56 in 1996. Handguns were used in 43 of the murders, rifles in 12, and shotguns in 6. Two officers were stabbed and one was killed by a blow from an assailant's fists or feet. Three were killed with their own weapons. (AP)

• Mayor Rudolph Giuliani has asked the New York City government to treat unmarried couples the same as those who are married. He proposed legislation that would allow people to retain apartment leases when their partners die and be buried with them in city-owned cemeteries. It would also obligate the city to give registered domestic partners the same benefits as spouses under future collective bargaining agreements. (AP)

• Following a congressional directive, the Postal Service will issue a stamp next year designed to encourage early detection and treatment of prostate cancer. (AP)

• A former female cadet at The Citadel who sued over alleged sexual harassment and physical abuse has settled her case for \$33,750. The state-supported South Carolina military college was not named as a defendant, but it paid the former cadet, Kim Messer, \$15,000 as part of the settlement to stave off a separate lawsuit. (AP)

• An Amtrak train rounded a curve at 50 miles per hour and struck and killed a man who was trying to rescue his dog from the tracks, officials said in Ventura, California. (AP)

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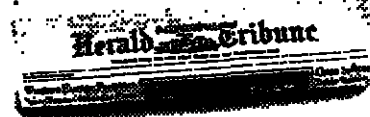
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INTERNATIONAL

Estrada Is Given Commanding Lead

After Exit Poll, He Asks Rivals to Concede

By Keith Richburg
Washington Post Service

MANILA — Joseph Estrada, the populist vice president who is idolized by the poor masses but who worries the country's elite, appeared Tuesday to have an unassailable lead in exit polls after the Philippine presidential election.

The exit poll, conducted by the Social Weather Stations group for the Philippine television station ABS-CBN, showed Mr. Estrada leading the crowded field of candidates with 38.7 percent of the vote. His closest rival, Jose de Venecia, the administration-backed candidate also endorsed by much of the country's establishment, was far behind in second place, with 16.45 percent of the vote, according to the exit poll.

Mr. Estrada's 32-point lead over Mr. de Venecia would translate into 5 million votes out of 27 million cast. Given his 1.5 percentage-point margin for error, the exit poll pointed to a complete popular repudiation not only of the country's political elite but also the Roman Catholic Church, which vigorously opposed Mr. Estrada because of his admitted past passions for women and drink.

Official results are not expected for about two weeks, because of the laborious process of counting the 27 million paper ballots by hand, in the presence of observers, and then sending all the results to a central tabulation center in Manila. But the first official results, of just 2 percent of the votes counted, also showed Mr. Estrada with a commanding lead over the rest of the pack.

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Pre-election surveys had also predicted that Mr. Estrada, a former star of action movies known for his pompadour hairstyle and mangled English, would win easily.

The slowness of the official count has led other candidates to continue to insist that they could still win and to warn of a "sinister plot" to try to condition voters' minds to an Estrada victory even before the final results are known.

President Fidel Ramos, who wanted a second six-year term but is prohibited by a constitutional one-term limit, cautioned Tuesday against prematurely assuming any winner.

"We need not speculate at this time," Mr. Ramos said. "Right now, it's just too early."

Mr. Estrada himself has practically declared victory, saying Tuesday that his election was "already in the bag."

He also called on his rivals to accept defeat, saying: "I hope they'll be gentlemen. They should concede defeat as soon as possible."

Mr. Estrada also called on his supporters to maintain vigilance to ensure there is no cheating during the official counting process that might rob him of his victory.

But Mr. Estrada's likely victory apparently was not enough to bolster his running mate, Senator Edgardo Angara. The exit poll showed that the vice presidency, which is elected separately, would be won by another senator, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, an economist and daughter of a former president.

The popular and photogenic Mrs. Macapagal-Arroyo bears a striking resemblance to a popular actress, and she used her youthful good looks to her advantage, posing on campaign posters smiling and holding a red rose. The exit poll showed her with more than 50 percent of the vote.

Ten candidates contested the presidency—or 11 counting Imelda Marcos, whose last-minute withdrawal did not stop her from gaining votes from diehard loyalists of her husband, Ferdinand Marcos.



Traffic aides, who usually patrol Manila's crowded streets, removing campaign posters Tuesday.

Despite the withdrawal, the Marcos family stands to benefit from the election, with Ferdinand Jr., the son of the dictator known as Bongbong, leading in the race for governor of Mr. Marcos's native Ilocos Norte Province, and with Imee, a daughter, leading in her race to represent the province in Congress.

Imelda Marcos herself may benefit from an Estrada victory, as he has hinted that he might pardon her of a conviction for amassing hidden wealth during her husband's 20-year rule.

In a weekend interview, he also

said he would try to close down the massive government hunt for the missing Marcos money, saying, "The government is always the loser here because we have to spend so much money" in lawyers' fees.

"After 12 years, this Marcos wealth—this so-called Marcos wealth—well, we'll see how to solve this problem," Mr. Estrada said.

The currency and stock markets appeared to shake off the news Tuesday of Mr. Estrada's apparent lead, even though most executives have expressed concern about his populist rhetoric and lack of any

background in economics. In Manila trading, the peso rose slightly, with the dollar slipping to 39.15 pesos from 39.40 on Monday, while in New York it dropped to 38.10 pesos from 39.00.

The benchmark Manila stock index finished up 4.56 points, or 0.21 percent, at 2,214.52.

The exit poll pointed to an interesting voting trend, suggesting that while the vice president enjoyed support nationwide, the various trailing presidential candidates largely split the anti-Estrada vote by relying on regional loyalties.

Israeli Supreme Court to Have Its First Arab Judge Next Year

Reuters

JERUSALEM — Israel has named its first Arab judge to the Supreme Court, the Justice Ministry said Tuesday.

The judge, Abd Rahman Zuabi, was the sole Israeli Arab to serve on a five-member commission of inquiry into the 1994 massacre by a Jewish settler, Dr. Baruch Gold-

stein, of 29 Palestinians at a mosque in Hebron in the West Bank.

A Justice Ministry spokesman said Mr. Zuabi, a judge in the District Court of Nazareth, in northern Israel, had been chosen because of his "experience and seniority."

The spokesman said that Judge Zuabi would, at least temporarily, fill one of the court's 14 seats starting

in a year's time. After six months, a judicial appointments committee will choose a permanent judge.

Israeli Arabs, who make up about 1 million of Israel's 5.9 million citizens, have long complained of discrimination by the state. A state comptroller's report last week found that Arab towns received below-average state subsidies, especially in education.

22 Killed in Algerian Attack

ALGIERS — Twenty-two people were massacred overnight near Oran, Algeria's second-largest city, security services said Tuesday.

The massacre on Monday night was near Ras El Ain, a few kilometers west of Oran in a region that has a reputation for being dangerous. The security forces did not say whether the victims were killed in a raid on their homes or whether they were intercepted at a false roadblock erected by Islamists, a common practice of the extremists.

The massacre came after a lull of several weeks. During Ramadan, the Muslim holy month of fasting, more than 1,000 civilians were slaughtered. (AP)

New Iraqi Appeal to UN Chief

PARIS — The United Nations secretary-general, Kofi Annan, said Tuesday that Iraq wanted to cooperate with UN weapons inspectors and was now honoring obligations in its effort to get trade sanctions lifted.

Mr. Annan spoke after a 30-minute meeting with the Iraqi deputy prime minister, Tariq Aziz, who pleaded for an end to the sanctions.

"The time has come to lift the sanctions, which have gone on for a very long time and which have had a lot of painful results," Mr. Aziz said in a brief news conference here outside the Hotel Crillon.

Mr. Annan met with France's president, Jacques Chirac, just before his talks with Mr. Aziz. France, a past ally of Baghdad, is pressing for the sanctions to be lifted.

Mr. Annan said that he and Mr. Aziz reviewed the Feb. 23 agreement that unblocked a crisis over UN weapons inspections. Under the agreement, Iraq agreed to open all sites to weapons inspectors, including President Saddam Hussein's palaces. (AP)

For the Record

General Fernando Landazabal Reyes, a former Colombian Army commander who was forced to step down as defense minister because of his hard-line stand against leftist guerrillas, was shot and killed Tuesday, the police said. The general was shot by three men as he walked from his house in Bogota to his office nearby, the police said. The suspects escaped. General Landazabal had been active in rightist politics. He ran for a seat in the Senate and was defense minister during the administration of President Belisario Betancur. (AP)

The leader of a banana workers' movement who took on major U.S. fruit companies for using toxic pesticides has been shot and killed in Honduras, authorities said Tuesday. Two men attacked Medardo Varela, 53, on Sunday in Sava, 280 kilometers (175 miles) north of the capital, Tegucigalpa. Mr. Varela led a movement that tried to get compensation for 5,000 Honduran workers who were affected by pesticides. (AP)

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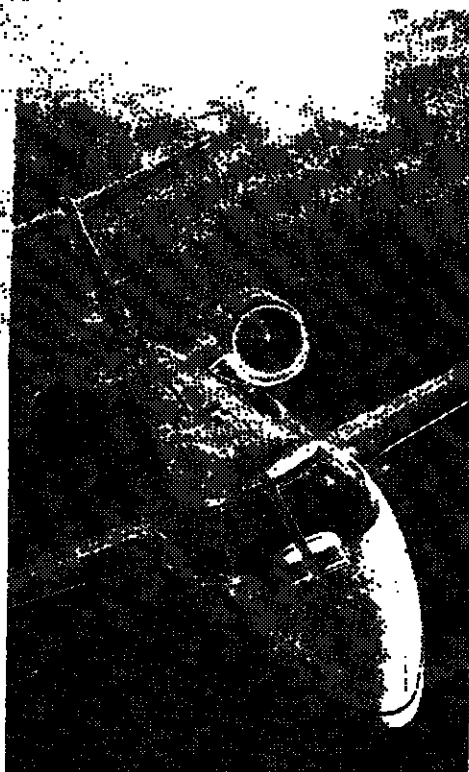
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ASIA/PACIFIC

Indian Governing Party Planned Tests in '96 but Lost Office

By Kenneth J. Cooper
Washington Post Service

NEW DELHI — Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who announced Monday that India had conducted three underground nuclear tests, wanted to proceed with such testing in 1996, but his minority coalition government fell before technical preparations could be made, sources said Tuesday.

The Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party, which leads the current coalition government and formed the short-lived minority government in 1996, has long promised to move India closer toward making nuclear weapons.

If it was a politically appealing promise, according to national opinion polls, it was also the kind of campaign rhetoric that many Western diplomats here mistakenly discounted as unlikely to be put into effect because the poor nation of 950 million would risk international sanctions. But the Hindu nationalist party meant every word.

"As far as BJP is concerned, we have stood for it throughout our life," Pramod Mahajan, a Vajpayee aide, said Tuesday.

The day after the nuclear tests stunned the world, while the United States and other countries con-

templated imposing sanctions, India celebrated. Parties across India's political spectrum, except Communists, praised the testing as an assertion of national strength and security.

Former Prime Minister H. D. Deve Gowda, who succeeded Mr. Vajpayee in 1996, called it "an essential step to promote peace in the world."

In his first stint as prime minister, Mr. Vajpayee did not have time to do much, but his 1996 tenure lasted long enough for him to explore the possibility of conducting a nuclear test. India's nuclear scientists informed him that it would take a month for them to prepare for such testing, according to Mohan Guruswamy, who drafted the national security section of the party's platform.

The minority coalition government did not have that long, though. It collapsed in just two weeks.

Dhirendra Sharma, an anti-nuclear activist, provided a similar account. Shortly after he left office in 1996, Mr. Vajpayee said he had actually ordered nuclear testing but government scientists did not want to do so unless his government won a parliamentary vote of confidence, Mr. Sharma recalled.

Brahma Chellaney, a defense analyst, also reported in an interview with the private ZEE-TV

channel that Mr. Vajpayee's previous government planned to test. As prime minister in a somewhat more durable coalition government, Mr. Vajpayee strolled out of his official residence at dusk Monday, smiling at journalists assembled on the lawn and dryly announced that India had conducted the tests that afternoon. Then he left without answering questions.

After just two months in power, Mr. Vajpayee's government has dared to do what time previous governments had not done in the 24 years since India first detonated a nuclear device when Indira Gandhi was prime minister. India crossed the threshold and virtually declared itself a nuclear weapons state.

Mr. Mahajan, asked why this government had tested when previous ones had not, replied: "You needed a bold prime minister to take a decision."

At least one of Mr. Vajpayee's predecessors, P. V. Narasimha Rao, ordered preparation of the same Pokhran testing site for an underground blast in late 1995 but dropped the plan after American intelligence agencies detected the activity and U.S. officials protested.

It is unclear how preparations for Monday's testing escaped satellite detection, if they did. Mr.

Guruswamy, a Bharatiya Janata Party foreign policy analyst, suggested that U.S. attention might have been intentionally diverted to a site in eastern Orissa state where India tested a short-range missile about three hours earlier Monday.

The Vajpayee government also managed to keep its plans secret for a month in a capital rife with news leaking and rumor mongering. Only a handful of members of the 40-member cabinet had advance knowledge, as did the prime minister's closest aides, sources said.

President K. R. Narayanan, whose role is largely ceremonial but who technically serves as commander in chief, was not informed until Sunday after his return from an official visit to South America, a Western diplomat said. A desire to maintain secrecy prompted the government to violate a promise that Defense Minister George Fernandes made last March that nuclear tests would not be conducted until after a strategic defense review by a new national security council. The review has not been completed.

"You cannot debate, discuss and then do a nuclear test," Mr. Mahajan said. Brajesh Mishra, the prime minister's top aide, said that no foreign government was notified in advance.

BRIEFLY
Mine Blast Leaves 7 Dead in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO — At least seven people were killed and eight wounded when a mine exploded near the northern Sri Lankan town of Vavuniya on Tuesday, police and military officials said.

They said two vehicles carrying members of the Democratic People's Liberation Front were heavily damaged from the explosion while traveling east of Vavuniya, 220 kilometers (130 miles) north of the capital, Colombo.

Five of the dead were Liberation Front members and included a senior party functionary from the area, Sellathurai Das, the police said. Two girls also died. (Reuters)

Akihito to Honor Ex-British Prisoners

TOKYO — Emperor Akihito of Japan said Thursday he would remember former British prisoners of war who were still suffering from the scars of World War II during his visit to Britain later this month.

Emperor Akihito and his wife, Empress Michiko, are to leave for a two-week trip to Portugal, Britain and Denmark on May 23. (Reuters)

Malaysia Appeals For Smog Funds

KUALA LUMPUR — The Malaysian government on Tuesday asked nongovernmental organizations to help establish a fund to fight smoke from forest and bush fires in the region.

But the groups said they first wanted to define their role in combating smog caused by the fires before agreeing on a fund, a spokesman for the World Wide Fund for Nature Malaysia said. Environment Minister Law Heng Ding met representatives of about 20 nongovernmental groups to discuss the fund. (Reuters)

UN Aide in Burma For Talks on Drugs

RANGOON — A senior United Nations official has met with Burma's ruling military leaders on government efforts to eradicate opium production, news reports said Tuesday.

In talks Monday, Pino Arlacchi, executive director of the UN Drug Abuse Control and Crime Prevention Organization, and Lieutenant General Khin Nyunt, who is Secretary One of Burma's ruling State Peace and Development Council, discussed combating drug abuse, cultivation of opium substitute crops and development matters, the reports said. (Reuters)

New Delhi's 'Bang' Brings Acclaim at Home

By John F. Burns
New York Times Service

NEW DELHI — The Indian government won overwhelming support at home Tuesday for three nuclear tests it conducted at a desert testing range on Monday, but senior officials appeared to be bracing themselves for the possibility of punitive economic steps by the United States, Britain, Japan and other nations that have helped sustain the Indian economy with aid, trade credits and loans.

Endorsement of the nuclear blasts came from most of India's influential newspapers, from leading opposition politicians, from student groups, and even from a grandson of Mohandas K. Gandhi, the apostle of nonviolence who led India's freedom struggle. Crucially for the Hindu nationalists who lead a fragile 14-party government, the explosions seemed also to have been enormously popular with voters.

Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, 72, who announced the tests in a terse statement on Monday, awoke Tuesday to headlines hailing the blasts as a rite of passage for India. "India Flexes Nuclear Muscle," declared The Indian Express, one of the country's most widely circulated English-language papers. "Explosion of Self-Esteem" said The Pioneer, another paper, above a front-page editorial describing international condemnation of the tests as hypocrisy, especially coming from countries like the United States with vast nuclear arsenals of their own.

"India has arrived on the threshold of superpower status, literally with a bang," the editorial said. After listing the probable consequences for India, including American economic sanctions, a renewed arms race with Pakistan, a return to hostile relations with China, and the loss of any hope that India might gain a seat on an expanded United Nations Security Council, the Pioneer editorial said that all this would be acceptable if the blasts forced the world to abandon its sense of India as "a wounded civilization, incapable of dealing with itself, leave alone others."

More cautious Indian commentators, seemingly a small minority, saw such reactions as premature, especially since the full consequences of the tests could not be reckoned without knowing the reaction of Pakistan, India's archrival and longtime competitor in the hitherto undeclared nuclear arms race in the subcontinent. Despite hawkish statements pledging "a matching response" by some top Pakistani officials in the immediate aftermath of the blasts, reports from Islamabad indicated the government was weighing carefully what many in Pakistan saw as one of the most critical decisions in the history of that nation.

Islamabad's choice appeared to lie between striking back with a nuclear test of its own, thereby risking the same economic sanctions that threaten India, or showing restraint, earning goodwill and the possibility of enhanced economic assistance from the West but risking the wrath of hard-line Muslim groups, the armed forces and other powerful groups at home. According to Benazir Bhutto, Pakistan's former prime minister, who spoke to the BBC in London on Monday, Pakistan's nuclear scientists have been ready to test for at least

two years, since India planned and then abandoned an earlier test.

A measure of the pressures on Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, who returned to Islamabad during the day from a tour of Central Asia, came from a remark made by Pakistan's top nuclear scientist, Abdul Qadeer, in an interview with a Pakistani newspaper. "We are like a cook waiting for the orders," Mr. Qadeer said. Another pointer came from Pakistan's army chief, General Jehangir Karamat, who remains enormously powerful in a country that has been ruled by military dictators for nearly half of its existence. "So far we have not disappointed our nation in respect of our security capability and we will never disappoint our people now," the general said.

Mr. Sharif gave no indication of his intentions as he headed into emergency meetings with close advisers and military chiefs in Islamabad, the capital of Pakistan. "We will determine what we shall do to safeguard the security of



President Bill Clinton urged India's neighbors on Tuesday not to conduct nuclear testing, too.

Pakistan," Mr. Sharif, 48, said as he stepped from his aircraft. Since winning a landslide election in February 1997, Mr. Sharif has been widely criticized in Pakistan for acting as though the only goal was perpetuating his own rule, a record that Pakistani commentators said made him likely to reach for the popular acclaim that a nuclear test might bring.

But the pressures on Mr. Sharif appeared to be finely balanced. As the meetings in Islamabad continued, an announcement by President Bill Clinton in Washington that he intended to implement "fully" the economic sanctions against India that are mandated by the 1994 Nuclear Proliferation Prevention Act set a high price for any nuclear test by Pakistan, since U.S. officials have made it plain that similar penalties would be applied against Pakistan.

Some analysts say Pakistan's tottering economy makes it much more vulnerable to one of the actions threatened by Washington, American pressure for a

SANCTIONS: Clinton Promises to Punish India for Nuclear Tests

Continued from Page 1

land, with other leaders of the Group of Seven economic forum, beginning Friday. The seven include Japan, the largest provider of foreign aid to India and a determined critic of nuclear testing.

The question of sanctions, however, could split the meeting, where Russia will participate on the margins. President Boris Yeltsin has expressed disappointment with the tests by India, a close ally, but said that Russia would rely on diplomatic means to "bring about a change in its position."

Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov added: "We are very cautious about sanctions. Sanctions are a very extreme measure which are not always productive."

Mr. Clinton noted, however, that U.S. laws "have very stringent provisions"

regarding nuclear tests by undeclared nuclear weapons states.

A 1994 law would require the president to end nearly all aid, bar U.S. banks from lending money to the offending government and halt exports of products with military uses. It would also require the United States to oppose aid to India by the International Monetary Fund and World Bank.

In 1995, India received U.S. economic aid worth \$164 million, compared with more than \$1 billion from Japan.

After several years of rapid growth, U.S. businesses and investors have a presence in India larger than those of any other country.

India has more than \$40 billion in loans from the World Bank, making it the largest borrower, but none from the International Monetary Fund. The United States alone could not block such loans,

but as the largest donor to the World Bank it carries great weight.

Mr. McCurry also said the administration was reviewing whether Mr. Clinton should go ahead with a planned trip to India later this year. The president is also scheduled to visit China and Pakistan.

Mr. Clinton's senior advisers recommended that he hit India with "the full range of sanctions" contained in a U.S. law widely referred to as the Glenn-Symington amendment, Reuters reported.

Meanwhile, John Holm, director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, said the administration was trying to persuade Pakistan that its security would not be enhanced if it accelerates its nuclear program.

Pakistan would be subject to the same economic penalties as India if it engaged in nuclear testing, he said.

REGION: As the West's Strategy Crumbles, the Consequences of India's Nuclear Tests Will Resonate for Years

Continued from Page 1

cision by the other country to respond in kind with a blast of its own. The first seismic station to record the shock waves was a site near Islamabad called Nilore, and Washington's task will be to persuade the Pakistanis not to view the blasts through a prism of anxiety about New Delhi's intentions.

Few U.S. officials are optimistic that they will be successful in preventing Pakistan from carrying out its repeated threats to do so. "Pakistan did not want to be the first to test," said a senior official, "but now they will be forced to by public opinion."

The tests also destroyed another prevailing assumption of U.S. policy: that Washington could slowly lure India away from its insistence that nuclear weapons are essential to its security by spinning a web of economic ties and political dialogue. An unusually tough and clearly written U.S. law leaves the administration no choice but to implement a punishing set of sanctions that could harm U.S.-India relations for years to come.

Washington's enthusiasm for a tough response was no doubt deepened by its embarrassment at having failed to see that the blasts were coming. This failure stands in contrast to an episode in December 1995, when U.S. spy satellites noticed suspicious work under way at the Indian test site at

Pokhran, and U.S. diplomats intervened in time to dissuade the ruling United Front coalition from going forward.

This time, India's military and top officials of the governing Bharatiya Janata Party, or BJP, were more cautious as they prepared for the explosions. As a U.S. intelligence official put it Monday, "We were as shocked as anybody" due to Indian concealment efforts that deprived policymakers and the CIA of any advance warning.

Another U.S. official said, "We knew that the BJP had always taken the position that India should be a nuclear power." But, he added, "the political analysis was that they would not actually go through with this, that they would not do something that would be this costly."

Whatever trust existed between Washington and New Delhi on this issue will not be easily revived, according to this official and several others.

The significance of the blasts in military terms remains uncertain. While the Indian prime minister claimed in his announcement that one of the devices was thermonuclear, implying a hydrogen bomb, several U.S. government analysts cast doubt on that idea and said it was more likely a "boosted fission" device that falls short of the most powerful type of bomb devised by man so far.

Further clarification may not be available until U.S. scientists have analyzed any radioactive particles released by the blasts and captured down-

wind by U.S. Air Force sampling planes and ground-based radiation detectors.

India claimed that the blasts were more powerful than its only other nuclear explosion, on May 15, 1974, a test that India has never acknowledged involved a nuclear weapon. But U.S. officials said the total force of the three explosions appeared to be 10 to 20 kilotons, or less than 20,000 tons of TNT — a force roughly similar to the previous explosion.

India's most likely aim, the officials said, was to confirm the development of a bomb design particularly suited for deployment atop the new Agni missile, which is to have a projected range of 1,500 miles (2,400 kilometers) and be capable of reaching more than 15 nations, including much of China. The missile requires additional tests before it can be deployed.

One clue to India's motives for developing such a warhead may be the May 3 statement by its defense minister, George Fernandes, who denounced Pakistan's recent test of a new medium-range ballistic missile called the Ghauri and also claimed that China posed a military threat because it had deployed tactical nuclear weapons in Tibet near the Indian border.

But U.S. intelligence officials say they believe that the long-standing Indian claim of nuclear missiles in Tibet is false, and that by resuscitating the allegation, New Delhi may be manufacturing a foreign threat in an attempt to justify its own

nuclear advances. China is in any event well-positioned to respond to any new Indian threat, with an arsenal of about 400 nuclear warheads already on hand and a well-established pipeline of quiet assistance to the Pakistani nuclear program.

In broader strategic terms, the Indian blasts constitute a blunt rejection of efforts by the five declared nuclear powers to convince all other nations that their security will be diminished, not enhanced, if they acquire an overt nuclear capability. This idea served as the cornerstone of U.S. efforts in 1995 to persuade the bulk of the world to forswear nuclear arms, and all nations in 1996 to forswear nuclear testing.

India had already rejected the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty and the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty as hypocritical efforts by the established nuclear powers to prevent anyone else from joining their club. But Washington had hoped this view would eventually give way as economic power, rather than military might, became the most important determinant of influence in the post-Cold War era.

The blasts proved, if anything, that India is not buying that notion. Instead, as the U.S. Defense Department said in a report last year on proliferation problems, New Delhi continues to view "nuclear weapons as a symbol of international power and prestige" — much as the United States and the Soviet Union did in the heyday of the Cold War.

INDONESIA: 4 Killed in Jakarta Clash

Continued from Page 1

crowd of 300 student demonstrators. The protests have been gathering force since early last week, when the Suharto government announced it would raise the price of fuel and electricity by as much as 70 percent. Although the price increases fulfill Indonesia's agreement with the International Monetary Fund, students have decried them as unjust.

President Suharto has been out of the country since Saturday, attending a meeting of heads of states of 15 developing nations in Cairo. On Monday, Mr. Suharto said the deepening economic crisis in Asia "could trigger a series of social problems, including the further spread of poverty, a rise in crime, and political instability."

Before his departure, Mr. Suharto warned in televised remarks that the police and military would crack down on anyone who threatened Indonesia's "national stability." People in Jakarta said that Mr. Suharto's decision to leave the country during the growing turmoil underscored his confidence in his position.

But political analysts have also said that the student movement would reach a flash point if security forces fired on the students or if the violence spread to the capital. A growing number of nonstudents have joined demonstrations, and

witnesses said outsiders had thrown rocks at the police during the protest Tuesday in Jakarta.

The violence at the University of Trisakti ended a day of taut political drama in the capital. Earlier in the day, a lawyer and political activist, Desmond Mahesa, came forward to testify that he had been abducted, tortured and held captive for two months, before being released last month. Mr. Mahesa said he did not know the identity of his captors, but there are rumors that factions of the Indonesian military have kidnapped activists in an intimidation campaign.

Mr. Mahesa is the second person to testify to a campaign of terror in Indonesia. Last week, Pius Lustrilang testified before a congressional committee in Washington that he had suffered electrocution and interrogation at the hands of unidentified captors. Mr. Mahesa described a similar regimen, saying that his captors had handcuffed his hands and feet, held his head under water and electrocuted him.

But he said that after one day of torture, his captors left him alone when he wrote down the names of his family and friends.

Unlike Mr. Lustrilang, Mr. Mahesa said that he did not intend to leave Jakarta. Speaking in calm, measured tones, he said that his safety and that of



A wounded student leaving an emergency room in Jakarta on Tuesday.

his family had been guaranteed by General Wiranto, the defense minister and head of Indonesia's armed forces. General Wiranto has started an investigation to determine whether the army has played a role in the abductions.

Human rights organizations in Jakarta say that 16 people have been abducted because of their political activities, of whom seven are still missing. The wave of disappearances began in February, before President Suharto was re-elected to a seventh term.

OUTRAGE: Japan Joins a Chorus of Anti-Nuclear Protests

Continued from Page 1

India. Officials from the European Union said they planned to decide on how to respond to the tests.

But nowhere was the reaction as emotional as in Japan, which still bears deep physical and emotional scars from the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings.

The country is staunchly opposed to nuclear weapons and testing in any form, and has consistently been a leader in the anti-nuclear movement.

And beyond the "No More Nuclear Tests" banners and chanting in other countries, Japan threatened to lash back at India with its most potent weapon: money.

Japan is the world's largest provider of development assistance to India, and it threatened to withhold grants, low-interest loans and other assistance. Officials said they were still deciding how much to withhold of the billion dollars in aid Japan supplies to India. Government officials said they were reviewing their entire diplomatic stance toward India.

Japanese policy on giving overseas development assistance takes into consideration the receiving nation's military spending, possession of weapons of mass destruction and arms exports. Officials said Japan took similar action against

China when it tested a nuclear weapon in 1995, withholding more than \$50 million in grants for almost two years.

Officials said the amount withheld was relatively small in the case of China because officials feared reversing the country's trend toward more engagement with the rest of the world.

Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto said he had sent a letter in March to India's new prime minister, Atal Behari Vajpayee, in which he said, "I am carefully watching the trend of the nuclear policy of India, which has a great influence to the peace and stability of the world."

Mr. Hashimoto said he was still waiting for a response, and, "Then they just did it."

The Japanese foreign minister, Keizo Obuchi, summoned the Indian ambassador, Siddharth Singh, to a meeting at Parliament, where Mr. Obuchi told the envoy, "We may have to consider taking some action regarding economic cooperation."

Mr. Singh replied, "We understand Japanese people's sentiment and the historical experience of Japan with nuclear weapons." But he defended the tests to Mr. Obuchi, telling him they were needed because of "the change in the security environment around India."

He cited "improvement in weapons possessed by countries to the north and west," suggesting China and Pakistan without naming them explicitly.

Japan's top government spokesman, Kenzo Murakami, the chief cabinet secretary, blasted New Delhi at a news conference, saying it was "extremely regrettable" that India conducted such tests, resisting the global trend to ban nuclear testing.

Yasushi Akashi, former UN deputy secretary-general and now director of the Hiroshima Institute of Peace, criticized India on Tuesday by evoking the name of Gandhi, who symbolizes non-violence for many around the world.

"This is just throwing cold water on the trend of nuclear disarmament around the world," Mr. Akashi said. "This is against the trend of the era."

Mayor Ito of Nagasaki came to the Indian Embassy in Tokyo on Tuesday to personally deliver his letter of protest. He said the testing was particularly galling to him because Nagasaki is currently sponsoring an exhibition in India, showing nuclear devastation in his city.

"I can't stop wondering whether these nuclear tests really represent the voice of the people," Mr. Ito said. "I can't stop expressing my anger and distrust and doubt."

هَذَا مِنْ الْأَصْلِ

EUROPE

U.S. Envoys Call the Gap Over Kosovo 'Substantial'

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia — Two U.S. special envoys, Richard Holbrooke and Robert Gelbard, met Tuesday with the ethnic Albanian leader of Kosovo, Ibrahim Rugova, a day after President Slobodan Milosevic of Yugoslavia rebuffed their bid for foreign mediation of the growing crisis in Kosovo.

The distance between the two sides still remains very substantial, Mr. Holbrooke said after the meeting.

He said the talks with Mr. Rugova were "very useful" and added that the Americans would meet again with Mr. Milosevic.

"Our position is, we are trying to get a process going," Mr. Holbrooke said. "All other details are being discussed and, I might add, without much progress."

The two envoys have held two four-hour sessions of talks with Mr. Milosevic since Saturday.

They also met with Mr. Rugova in the capital of Kosovo on Sunday. That meeting had been followed by talks with Albanian leaders in Tirana.

Albanian leaders on Tuesday rejected for the 13th time in two months an invitation from Serbia to hold talks. They refuse to begin negotiations until Belgrade agrees to the presence of an international mediator.

Prime Minister Ratko Markovic of Serbia had invited Tirana to discuss a provisional decision on the status of Kosovo and a draft plan for local self-government.

After the talks Sunday, Mr. Milosevic decried external pressure being brought to bear on what he described as an internal matter for his country, according to a report by the official Tanjug news agency.

The mainly ethnic Albanian population of Kosovo is seeking greater independence from Belgrade. Mr. Milosevic revoked the autonomy of the southern Serbian province in 1989 when he was chief of the Yugoslav Communist Party.

A Serbian crackdown in Kosovo since March has left some 100 people dead.

Two ethnic Albanians were killed in Pristina early Tuesday, one of them in a shoot-out with Serbian police. The other man was found shot in a house, but the circumstances of his death were unclear, the Albanian Human Rights Committee said. (AFP, Reuters)



Mr. Rugova pointing the way for Mr. Gelbard, center, and Mr. Holbrooke.

'I'm Healthy,' Yeltsin Says On-Line

Reuters

MOSCOW — President Boris Yeltsin took to cyberspace on Tuesday to announce that he was in excellent health and to pledge that Russia will never return to what he called the "Communist psychosis."

Mr. Yeltsin, 67, president also told surfers of the World Wide Web that he did not think Russia was ready to be led by a woman.

Shortly before making his Internet debut, Mr. Yeltsin used the much more traditional setting of Russia's Foreign Ministry to outline the country's international priorities at a summit of world leaders at the annual gathering of the Group of Eight major industrialized countries in the English city of Birmingham.

Mr. Yeltsin, who is due to fly to Britain on Friday, said Russia's full inclusion in the elite grouping was proof that it had become an equal partner of Western countries in the post-Cold War era.

In a clear dig at Moscow's old rival, the United States, he said: "It is time to recognize that in the contemporary world, no single state can dictate its views, not even a very powerful state." Moscow has long resented Washington's economic and military pre-eminence since the fall of the Soviet Union.

Mr. Yeltsin is expected to hold informal meetings in Birmingham with the seven other leaders. The G-8 groups Russia, the United States, Japan, Germany, Britain, France, Canada and Italy.

During his half-hour Internet session, Mr. Yeltsin was in a confident, upbeat

mood and even challenged one American questioner to a sporting encounter to see who was fitter.

"Well come on then, let's compete at sport, let's show each other who's healthier," said Mr. Yeltsin, who in November 1996 underwent life-saving heart surgery.

"Today, I've been working since 5 A.M.," he said during the on-line exchanges. "I had four hours' sleep. I'm working intensely. There's still a long

working day ahead.

"This doesn't affect me, you see — not my appearance, nor my vigor, my energy, I'm healthy."

Mr. Yeltsin made clear that the economic and political reforms he has begun in Russia are irreversible.

"I shall continue to follow the line of reforms, of democracy, of market economics," Mr. Yeltsin said. "No, and again no, in no circumstances will there be a return to Communist psychosis."

BRIEFLY

Turkish Chief Faces Corruption Inquiry

ANKARA — Parliament on Tuesday voted to set up a commission to investigate corruption charges against the conservative prime minister of Turkey, Mesut Yilmaz, witnesses said.

The motion has been passed, said Hasan Korkmazcan, the parliamentary speaker, announcing the result of the vote by a show of hands.

Mehmet Gozluoglu, a senior deputy of the conservative opposition headed by Mr. Yilmaz's chief rival, Tansu Ciller, said the investigation motion submitted by his party accused Mr. Yilmaz of inflating costs in a government airport tender.

The 550-seat Parliament voted last month to set up a similar commission to investigate Mr. Yilmaz's wealth after also launching an inquiry into Mrs. Ciller's assets. (Reuters)

German Court Tries Internet Executive

MUNICH — The former head of the German subsidiary of a U.S. Internet company went on trial Tuesday on charges of failing to prevent the publication of child pornography, in the first such case in Germany.

In his position with CompuServe Germany, Felix Sommer, 34, is being tried in connection with the publication of pornographic material involving children, animals and violence in 1995 and 1996.

Prosecutors said CompuServe had the technical means to screen out such material, but defense lawyers denied that the company was capable of this in Germany. At the request of German magistrates, the U.S. firm had prevented its subscribers from gaining access to 200 Internet sites, but lifted the blockage in February 1996. (AFP)

German Rightists Point to September

MUNICH — The German People's Union, which recorded the best post-war result for the far right in a German state last month, said Tuesday that it would probably run in the general election in September.

The newspaper Berliner Kurier reported Tuesday that the party's board had already made a decision to campaign nationwide and would formally announce its plans this week.

"It looks as though we will run in the general election," Olaf Herrmann, a spokesman for the German People's Union, said.

The party, which the German internal security agency has called anti-Semitic and racist, won 12.9 percent of the vote in a state election in the economically depressed state of Saxony-Anhalt last month. (Reuters)

French Politician Convicted of Graft

EVRY, France — A French Gaullist senator was given an 18-month suspended sentence on Tuesday after being convicted of graft and embezzling public funds.

The senator, Xavier Dugoin, a member of the Rally for the Republic, or RPR party, of President Jacques Chirac, was found guilty of using council funds to pay his wife wages for fictitious work. Mr. Dugoin is also the former president of the Essonne regional council near Paris.

His wife, who had received a monthly salary of 22,000 francs (\$3,700) for more than two-and-a-half years, was fined 300,000 francs as an accomplice. Mr. Dugoin was also found guilty of using council funds to pay a cleaning woman for his home and purchase plane tickets. (Reuters)

Hillary Clinton Visits Chirac Country

American First Lady Sees French Counterpart's Political Domain

By Charles Truheart
Washington Post Service

TULLE, France — Hillary Rodham Clinton dipped briefly into the local French political scene Tuesday as she visited the home region and longtime political district of France's first lady, Bernadette Chirac.

Mrs. Chirac, as an elected official in the Correze department of central France, greeted Mrs. Clinton in the council chambers in Tulle, where she has served on the governing body for nearly two decades.

Though she is known as "la presidente" as the wife of President Jacques Chirac, Mrs. Chirac has eked out a political existence of her own in the remote country she adopted when she married a Correzean politician.

In Tulle, through an interpreter, Mrs. Clinton listened to the welcome and praise of local officials of the Chiracs' center-right party, as well as to a few mildly argumentative remarks by Socialist and Communist members of the Correze council.

Begging her pardon for asking the question, a Socialist, Rene Teulade, asked Mrs. Clinton what her reasons were for "abandoning" her health care reform project that "seemed to us more just, more humane, less costly and more efficient?"

A Communist member, Jacques Chaminade, took the occasion to remind Mrs. Clinton of the days when French Communist Party members could not travel to the United States and to assert his preference for local fare over McDonald's "and other hamburgers" that

are part of an "invasive" American culture and commended Mrs. Clinton for recently supporting the "necessity, for peace, of a Palestinian state."

Mrs. Clinton, addressing the council in English, said, "Although I feel strongly about many issues, such as health care, sometimes in a democracy we have to take baby steps and not giant strides."

Quoting Alexis de Tocqueville, the 19th-century French chronicler of the young American republic, she said, "Without local institutions, a nation can give itself free government, but it cannot have the spirit of liberty."

Mrs. Clinton and Mrs. Chirac, in a 21-car motorcade that left French villagers agog at the side of the road, then drove to the village of Correze to visit a nursery school and a church and have lunch with local officials.

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THE INTERMARKET
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on Page 4

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INTERNATIONAL

Netanyahu Walks Political Tightrope

By Lee Hockstader
Washington Post Service

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu heads to Washington navigating between one political outcome he does not want and another he cannot afford: a rift with his right-wing coalition partners and a rift with the United States.

Widely accused in the West of pushing the Middle East peace process to the breaking point, he has strayed into treacherous political terrain — even for a leader to whom the term crisis management at times must seem a redundancy. Nevertheless, "in general, he's optimistic," said David Bar-Ilan, the Israeli leader's communications director. If so, he is virtually alone in the Middle East these days.

Mr. Netanyahu has repeatedly vowed that he will carry out Israel's obligations under the Oslo peace accord, despite having taken office as an ardent critic of the 1993 pact, which he said could jeopardize Israel's security. But since he has consistently dodged, ducked and stonewalled American attempts to advance the peace process for the last 14 months, diplomats are increasingly skeptical that he intends to make a deal.

"At the end of the day, in matters of security, it is Israel that must decide," Mr. Netanyahu said Monday, "and I think this is the view shared by, frankly, the people of America, and I would like to believe also the government of the United States."

Hawks in his government have threatened to bolt if he hands over too much — or even any — territory in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, captured by Israel in the 1967 Middle East war. Although Mr. Netanyahu enjoys only a narrow majority in Parliament, it is possible that he could survive a revolt by his



REACHING OUT TO SETTLERS — Ehud Barak, leader of the opposition Labor Party, meeting Jewish settlers Tuesday at Ofra, in the West Bank. He vowed to defend their right to stay under a final peace accord.

most reactionary allies. The United States, by far Israel's most important ally and largest donor, has threatened to re-examine its mediation efforts unless Mr. Netanyahu agrees to Washington's proposal to hand over a further 13 percent of the West Bank, bringing at least partial Palestinian control to a total of 40 percent of the territory.

But Israeli officials say they doubt the strains in relations have reached a breaking point, and they have seen little evidence that the Clinton administration has the stomach for a serious confrontation with Israel's Jewish allies in the United States.

"I don't feel that we're stretching things too tight," an Israeli official said. Both courses — a crisis at home or

one abroad — are fraught with political risks for Mr. Netanyahu. The alternative, however, is an interminable peace process that is more about process than results. So far, he has kept nearly everyone guessing at his intentions.

Mindful of those doubts and determined to project some sense of progress on peace, Mr. Netanyahu's government trumpeted the news that he would meet with Secretary of State Madeleine Albright in Washington on Wednesday.

Similarly, leaks to the Israeli media in the last couple of days were taken as evidence that a breakthrough was imminent in the deadlock over how much of the Israeli-held West Bank should be handed over to Palestinian control.

U.S. Denies Pressure on Israel

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Denying the United States is putting pressure on Israel, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright made a public appeal on Tuesday for acceptance of a U.S. formula for resuming peace talks with the Palestinians. The key item is a 13 percent Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank.

"Too many opportunities have been lost to heal old wounds," Mrs. Albright said in a speech that pledged U.S. support for Israel would be unshakable even if her diplomatic effort failed.

"Our commitment to Israel does not come with a time limit," she said.

But the thrust of her speech was to offer assurances that the proposed pull-

back took Israel's security concerns into account and that it represented a compromise with the Palestinians, who wanted a greater withdrawal from the West Bank.

She called the U.S. proposals, which include an appeal for a halt to building new homes for Jews in East Jerusalem or in the West Bank, "suggestions" and not an ultimatum.

In fact, Mrs. Albright said, it is Israel's right under the 1993 and 1995 Oslo accords with the Palestinian Authority to determine how much land to relinquish.

But the U.S. proposal for a specific pullback "is the only way to reach agreement on launching permanent status talks," she said.

The idea was that the difference between the 9 percent the Israelis say they are willing to cede and the 13 percent the Americans have proposed — could be bridged by holding 4 percent of the land in "escrow," to be handed over at some future date pending the Palestinians' good behavior on Israel's security concerns.

It turns out that the idea, which seems to have originated with the Israelis, was exclusively for public consumption. It was never presented to the Palestinians.

Saeb Erekat, the chief Palestinian negotiator, said of Mr. Netanyahu, "He is not a tough negotiator, he is a non-negotiator." Unless the Clinton administration applies real pressure, Mr. Erekat said Mr. Netanyahu is unlikely ever to make a deal.

The credibility of the United States depends on what decision they will take regarding Netanyahu," he said.

BOOKS

THE TIME OF OUR TIME

By Norman Mailer. 1286 pages. \$39.50. Random House.

Reviewed by Michiko Kakutani

NORMAN MAILER'S "The Time of Our Time" might more aptly be called "The Time of His Time."

Although this bulky new omnibus of fiction and non-fiction writings is supposed to "offer some hint at a social and cultural history over these last 50 years," it is less a chronicle of the passing parade of American life than a monumental self portrait, a noisy advertisement for Mailer's own style, persona and obsessions, as they've evolved (or failed to evolve) over five decades.

By turns scintillating and snipid, provocative and numbing, insightful and perverse, the volume has been edited by Mailer to "improve the prose" and remove "repetitions of theme." It remains, nonetheless, a thickly padded crazy quilt of a book, a book that suggests that no one in contemporary letters is as capable of vacillating so wildly between the bravura and the boneheaded as Mailer.

Tiresome passages from "Ancient Evenings" — Mailer's embarrassing excursion into Egyptian mysticism, which has nothing whatsoever to do with this volume's supposed raison d'être — jostle for space with acute pieces of political reportage, while poems, interviews and personal asides are juxtaposed with seemingly random excerpts from such works of fiction as "The Deer Park," "Why Are We in Vietnam?" and "Harlot's Ghost."

In typically grandiose style, a section titled "The Second World War" is followed, a few pages later, by a section titled "The Second Novel."

Along the way, we are introduced to a full panoply of Mailer alter egos, from Aquarius to the "presumptive literary champion" to the Esthetic Investigator, and we are reminded, once again, of Mailer's ambition, as he once put it, to "write a novel which Dostoyevsky and Marx; Joyce and Freud; Stendhal, Tolstoy, Proust and Spengler; Faulkner, and even old moldering Hemingway might come to read."

Yet what this volume makes clear, if it were not already quite apparent, is that Mailer's strength lies in nonfiction. As

virtuoso pieces in the book on everything from bullfighting to political conventions to the March on the Pentagon attest, journalism not only showcases the author's quick, observant eye, his gift for the cameo portrait, his radar for atmosphere and mood, but it also tames his penchant for pontification by grounding his obsessive flights of fancy in something real.

It's like Robin Williams being handed a solid acting role and a strict director: The very constrictions of journalism that Mailer rails against often force him to do his very best work, witness the achievement of his 1979 masterpiece, "The Executioner's Song," a fluent, selfless work that turned the life story of Gary Gilmore into a powerful ballad of love and death.

As Mailer himself suggests in these pages, the sudden fame he won at the age of 25 with his first book "The Naked and the Dead" — a novel that holds up 50 years after its publication as the estimable work of a talented, if efflow young man — also affected his ability to fulfill his novelistic ambitions. His early success, Mailer observes, cut him off from his past and from "an average man's experience." In effect, he says, it moved him "from the audience to the stage."

On one hand, this move from observer to observed would lead Mailer to create the raucous, self-dramatizing narrators of "The Armies of the Night" and "Miami and the Siege of Chicago," and in doing so, pioneer a new, exuberantly stylized form of reportage that filtered the embattled zeitgeist of the '60s through the prism of his own combative mind.

On the other hand, it hampered his ability to imaginatively inhabit other people's experiences, a crippling blow for a novelist, particularly one who had grown up in the naturalistic shadow of Hemingway.

Either Mailer's fictional heroes bear an uncomfortable resemblance to his own public persona — remember Rojack in "An American Dream"? — or the novels, as a whole, feel like jerry-built constructions, decorated, like a Christmas tree, with familiar Mailerian obsessions.

Although Mailer seems to want to be a novelist of ideas — he would settle for nothing less, he once declared, than "making a revolution in the

consciousness of our time" — too many of his ideas are adolescent, irresponsible or just plain flaky to successfully engage the reader's attention.

In fact, the excerpts in this volume are peppered with ludicrous notions, from the author's infamous assertion in "The White Negro" that the cold-blooded murder of a candy-store keeper demonstrates "courage of a sort," to his suggestion that antibiotics are somehow "liquidators of possibility" that prevent the body from learning "how well it could have cured itself."

Equally debilitating is the penchant Mailer and his characters have for seeing the world in Manichean terms of black or white, good or evil. Everything — from bedding a woman to besting a rival on a TV show — must be seen as a test, a war, a power struggle. One is either square or hip, cowardly or brave, part of the problem or the solution.

In his most powerful non-fiction, Mailer either acknowledges these prejudices and preconceptions with alarming candor (as he did in "Armies of the Night") or sublimates them in the service of his story (as he did in "The Executioner's Song").

It is in his later biographical studies — most notably "Oswald's Tale: An American Mystery" and "Portrait of Picasso as a Young Man" — that he begins to trade these observation-based techniques for raw speculation, turning his subjects into cardboard embodiments of his own theories of heroism, rebellion or creativity.

In one of the magazine pieces included in "The Time of Our Time," Mailer sets out to profile an entertainer who shares his egotism and flair for flamboyant self-promotion. "If Madonna shows a predominant vice, it is that she always stands for something," he writes. "It is usually rich enough, or by her detractors' estimate, gaudy enough, to be on the very edge of the public's digestive powers."

The same, of course, has often been said of Mailer himself, which goes a long way in explaining why his novels tend to be so clumsy; his journalism, so provocative and prickly. It also explains why he has such a hard time generating imaginative sympathy for many of his fictional creations, and why, in the end, he remains his own most intriguing creation.

New York Times Service

BEST SELLERS

The New York Times		
This list is based on reports from more than 2,000 bookstores throughout the United States. Weeks on the list are not necessarily consecutive.		
FICTION		
This Week	Last Week	Weeks on List
1 YOU BELONG TO ME by Mary Higgins Clark	2	2
2 "N" IS FOR NOOSE by Sue Grafton	1	1
3 THE LONG ROAD HOME by Danielle Steel	1	4
4 MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE by Nicholas Sparks	4	3
5 BLACK AND BLUE by Anna Quindlen	3	13
6 THE STREET LAWYER by John Grisham	5	12
7 PANDORA by Anne Rice	6	7
8 COLD MOUNTAIN by Charles Francis Johnson	7	44
9 A PATCHWORK PLANET by Anne Tyler	10	2
10 MEMOIRS OF A GESSHA by Arthur Golden	9	25
11 SWIMMING TO CATALINA by Stuart	1	1
12 PARADISE by Toni Morrison	12	16
13 TUXEDO by Robin Cook	8	5
14 AN INSTANCE OF THE FINGERPOST by Ian Fears	5	1
15 HOMECOMING by Nora Roberts	11	6
NONFICTION		
1 TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE by Mitch Albom	2	29
2 THE MILLIONAIRE NEXT DOOR by Thomas J. Stanley and William D. Danko	1	68
3 ANGELA'S ASHES by Frank McCourt	3	86
4 THE GIFT OF THE HEAVS by Thomas Cahill	5	4
5 TALKING TO HEAVEN by James Van Praagh	4	18
6 AMAZING GRACE by Kathleen Norris	11	3
7 CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD Book 1 by Neale Donald Walsch	9	73
8 APHRODITE by Isabel Allende	8	3
9 THE MAN WHO LISTENS TO HORSES by Henry Roberts	7	38
10 THE PERFECT STORM by Sebastian Junger	12	48
11 CANDIDACE by Edward G. Wilson	13	3
12 SPIN CYCLE by Howard Rosenberg	10	8
13 WE ARE OUR MOTHERS DAUGHTERS by Cokie Roberts	1	1
14 LESSONS LEARNED THE HARD WAY by Newt Gingrich	1	1
ADVICE, HOW-TO AND MISCELLANEOUS		
1 SIMPLE ABUNDANCE by Sarah Ban Breathnach	2	109
2 IN THE MEANTIME by Ivanka Visan	4	3
3 THE 9 STEPS TO FINANCIAL FREEDOM by Suze Orman	1	6
4 EIGHT WEEKS TO OPTIMUM HEALTH by Andrew Weil	3	27



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EDITORIALS/OPINION

Herald Tribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

A Mideast Rendezvous

Back on Track?

Suddenly the United States finds itself drawn far beyond the familiar fraying tactical issues of the stalled Middle East negotiations. Its move from failed facilitator to hopeful drafter of compromise terms takes it to a moral as well as political threshold. Should Americans even be thinking of substituting their notion for the Israelis' notion of what security concessions the anxious Israelis should make? Is it not especially offensive that Israelis should be asked to pay Palestinians to stop killing children in the streets?

The case is strong for leaving choices in the hands of the people who will bear their consequences. Israelis face in the Palestinians an adversary with a cruel terrorist streak. They face in the overall Arab and Muslim world an environment marked by hate, hostility and ever more destructive weaponry. The suicide bomb represents sheer viciousness. It is not fanciful to imagine that, with a state as a platform, Palestinians would eventually be positioned to wreak even more terrible harm. In these circumstances, for Americans to second-guess a democratically elected Israeli government on basic security issues can seem nothing short of arrogant.

But an appropriate humility does not moot the compelling case for responsible American statesmanship. The case starts with an awareness that, now as earlier, Israel's fears have kept it from making realistic policy choices on its own. It has needed sympathetic but pointed American assistance.

The case goes on to emphasize the United States' generous longtime role in providing for Israel's military and economic sinews and in using its global standing to Israel's advantage.

It concludes with the requirement to serve the major American interests at play in Arab and Muslim realms. The details of American engagement are critical here. Washington's proposals for an interim settlement protect tough Israeli positions on withdrawal, security and reciprocity and deliver Israel to its longtime goal of final-settlement talks. Both those who see the greater danger in the status quo and those who see it in change can approve. The terms change things, but incrementally, carefully.

In his meeting now scheduled for Wednesday with Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has the opening to put Israeli-American relations back on track.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

Peace Pressures

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has successfully resisted President Bill Clinton's proposal for immediate talks conditioned on a further 13 percent withdrawal from the West Bank, making this an especially tender moment for his visit to the United States. The administration is showing more and more frustration, and Israelis are feeling more resentment over American pressure.

Mr. Netanyahu arrives on Wednesday for a five-day trip, and a newly scheduled meeting with Secretary of State Madeleine Albright offers some hope of progress. But time does appear to be running out before the administration makes its threatened reassessment of the American role in the Mideast negotiations.

The administration has been right to assert that this is the moment to push the negotiations. A more urgent case by Washington was necessary, especially since the once-productive working relationship between Israel and Palestinian leaders had deteriorated. At the same time, the administration needs to be sensitive to how disturbing it looks for Washington to be dictating terms and timetables or using peremptory language on a close friend like Israel.

For his part, Mr. Netanyahu needs to be careful not to use his visit to rebuff an administration whose peace efforts in the Middle East enjoy broad public support in America. He can use this trip to listen as well as talk, and to study the

widespread concern on Capitol Hill and elsewhere about the survival of the Oslo peace process.

Administration officials say that the 13 percent additional withdrawal by Israel from the West Bank remains the minimum necessary to maintain the credibility of Yasser Arafat, who is under fire from Palestinian extremists for conceding as much as he has. But there ought to be additional formulas, beyond those involving reciprocal Palestinian actions, by which Israel can carry out such a withdrawal and still satisfy its security concerns.

The discussion right now should be focused on such details, and not on political jousting by either side. It would be a mistake for Mr. Netanyahu to repeat what he did on his last visit in January — attempt to build support by attending rallies with some of Mr. Clinton's most hostile critics.

The administration has put forward ideas to assure Israel that its security interests can be met by a withdrawal that is the minimum necessary for the Palestinians. As its leaders say repeatedly, Israel must of course make the final judgment on how to protect itself. But there is also ample incentive for a deal, since Mr. Arafat has pledged to discuss a final settlement after a withdrawal agreement, as Mr. Netanyahu wants.

As the mediator, the United States is now probing to see if Israeli security concerns are balanced by a desire to keep the whole negotiations process going. It is Israel, after all, that has the most to lose if the talks run aground.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Qualified to Serve

Senate majority leader Trent Lott refuses to let the Senate vote on President Bill Clinton's nominee to be ambassador to Luxembourg. Four of Mr. Lott's fellow Republicans have objected to would-be Ambassador James Hormel because, they say, of his support for gay rights. But many other Clinton appointees have shared Mr. Hormel's views on that matter. The real problem seems to be that Mr. Hormel is himself openly gay.

Mr. Hormel, 65, is a longtime supporter of the Democratic Party, and you could certainly make a case that more career diplomats and fewer political contributors should get ambassadorial posts. But, as political nominations go, Mr. Hormel is, according to wide bipartisan consensus, unusually well qualified. A lawyer and businessman from San Francisco, he has been a longtime and effective supporter of many charitable causes. George Shultz, former secretary of state, says he "would be a wonderful representative for our country."

The senators who object say they fear he would use his ambassadorship to advance a gay rights agenda. How that might come about in Luxembourg is hard to see. In any case, he has made clear that he would use his post to promote U.S. policy, and U.S. policy only. His nomination sailed through the Senate Foreign Relations Committee

last fall. Now he deserves a vote in the full Senate. Those senators who do not believe that a gay person should represent the United States overseas would be able to vote "no." Those who believe that America should welcome to public service its most qualified citizens regardless of race, religion, gender, ethnic background or sexual orientation would be able to vote "yes."

We believe that a majority of the Senate inclines toward the latter view. As Republican Senator Orrin Hatch said in support of Mr. Hormel's nomination, "I just don't believe in prejudice against any individual, regardless."

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

Other Comment

'People Power' Elsewhere

"People power," the slogan of the peaceful revolution in the Philippines that swept the despotic Ferdinand Marcos from office in 1986, is now emblazoned on the banners held aloft by angry students across Indonesia. It should make Filipinos proud. Yet they can only lament that their revolution, launched with such courage and hope, should so soon have degenerated into political farce. [That] has been all too evident during the campaign for the Philippine presidential election.

—THE ECONOMIST (London).

An Indian Nuclear Punch to the International Nose

By Jim Hoagland

WASHINGTON — Atal Bihari Vajpayee comes right to the point. The new Indian prime minister burst onto the world stage this week by delivering a nuclear punch to the nose of the international community and then celebrating his dubious achievement on a religious festival day.

Other candidates for Polecat of the Month status were instantly left eating dust. The carefully cultivated "more in sorrow than in anger" defiance favored by Benjamin Netanyahu and the stiff toughish demeanor of Slobodan Milosevic suddenly seemed old hat and rather less cataclysmic on Mr. Vajpayee's day of atonement.

The Israeli prime minister and Serbia's president had led the way in May in risking international pressure and condemnation to safeguard national interests that they see as vital. But they have been gentle and thoughtful in their resistance to American pressure, if you contrast them to Mr. Vajpayee, leader of India's Hindu nationalist government.

He chose a symbolically charged moment to order his country's first nuclear explosion, since 1974. The three experimental underground blasts were carried out on Monday near India's frontier with Pakistan. Pakistan

will now defy international pressure and test its own nuclear device.

Mr. Vajpayee struck just as the leaders of the world's seven most affluent industrial democracies, joined by their poor but militarily powerful Russian cousins, were preparing to assemble in England for their annual two-day parley about the state of the world.

These talks, now known as G-7, G-8 or G-Whatever, have become the ultimate Bunch of Guys Sitting Around a Table. The talks are no longer about power but about the illusion of power, created and sustained in the summit's press releases and wall-to-wall puffery.

Mr. Vajpayee punctured that illusion of power with nuclear blasts that the CIA-DIA-NSA \$25-billion-a-year gadgetry did not spot being prepared and that the world leaders were relatively confident would not happen now. After all, they had issued stern warnings to both India and Pakistan about the consequences of sparking a nuclear arms race in the subcontinent.

In the ultimate indication that the great powers are not so great now, Mr. Vajpayee seems to have been oblivious

to the timing of their summit. He chose May 11 because it fell on the same Buddhist festival day as the first Indian test in 1974. Mr. Vajpayee announced the explosions in a sparse six-sentence declaration, after which he took no questions from reporters.

The big question he did not answer is why, or at least why now. The answer seems to be political rather than military. Mr. Vajpayee is not about to attack Pakistan or China, which his government has identified as military threats. Instead he moves to bolster his Hindu nationalist party's standing with an electorate that welcomed the tests.

He also probably calculates that becoming a declared nuclear power ultimately boosts India's chance to gain a permanent seat in the United Nations Security Council and other international power groups.

Would the Group of Seven have bent their rules and framework to bring Russia halfway into their meetings (the finance ministers now meet a week before the heads of government, to avoid sitting down with their Russian counterpart) if Moscow were not the world's second greatest nuclear power? I somehow doubt it.

The five permanent members of the

Security Council have exactly one thing in common: They all possess nuclear weapons. Mr. Vajpayee has stiffed their nonproliferation appeal, which much of the Third World sees as self-dealing pablum in any event. India has sounded a nuclear knock on the Big Five's door.

Mr. Vajpayee is an inconvenient fellow in another important aspect: America's strenuous effort to halt the spread of nuclear weapons has been based to a great extent on legitimate fears that a rogue regime headed by a dictator would unleash a global crisis by actually using these things.

India is the world's largest democracy. Mr. Vajpayee is neither rogue (in this sense) nor dictator. He is for better or worse an expression of India's collective political judgment. The same can be said for Israel's Mr. Netanyahu, who has undeclared but real nuclear weapons in his hip pocket.

Mr. Vajpayee's nuclear decision is shocking and reprehensible. But it should deliver two needed reminders to Clinton & Colleagues at Birmingham: Power is about will, not words and illusions. And selective nonproliferation is a hard case to make.

The Washington Post.

But Why Shouldn't a Democracy Be Armed to Defend Itself?

By Philip Bowring

HONG KONG — India's nuclear tests have brought into focus the contradictions among America's roles as global policeman, honest broker and missionary for democracy.

They are especially poignant just before President Bill Clinton's visit to an assertive, nuclear China.

The tests challenge the importance that the policeman has placed on official nonproliferation. They confront the United States with the reality of its lack of evenhandedness toward India vis-à-vis China and Pakistan. And they raise the question of why a plural, democratic India should not have the right to weapons of mass destruction, and the means to deliver them, pos-

sessed by an authoritarian and nationalistic neighbor. China. The tests are as much aimed at cementing the Bharatiya Janata Party's hold on power in Delhi as in raising India's strategic power projection capability. They are certainly provocative, may set off a regional arms race, and deprive India of foreign investment while being of little military value.

However, India has put up with neighbors' provocations for a long time. For 24 years it buckled under Western pressure not to convert its "peaceful" 1974 test into formal nuclear power status. It has got scant reward for this.

China has not only contin-

ued with its own program of tests. It has persistently evaded U.S. attempts to limit the development of Pakistan's missile capability, which has been catching up with India's. U.S. pressure to prevent Pakistan from developing its own nuclear device came far too late to be effective.

The U.S. tilt toward China and Pakistan was understandable in the Cold War days of India's close links with Moscow and the Soviets' war in Afghanistan. But the bias toward Pakistan has looked increasingly bizarre. The old Soviet-era assumptions have collapsed, while Pakistan has become the center of the re-

gional drugs trade and the sponsor of Afghanistan's Taliban, the nastiest regime in Asia outside North Korea.

Meanwhile, U.S. relations with China have been driven by a combination of commercial pressures and missionary zeal to convert China to capitalism (not democracy). The State Department has dozens of China specialists, but India ranks low in importance.

India is not specifically threatened by China. Nor is Pakistan ever likely to be the military equal of its huge neighbor. But it is not unreasonable for India to want to maintain strategic superiority on the subcontinent and to be treated more or less as an equal to China.

China is not specifically

threatened either by Russia or by the United States, but this does not stop it from keeping nuclear-armed missiles aimed at both countries.

The consequences of India's tests are unpredictable, and to that extent they are dangerous. But they are also a recognition of the actual spread of such weapons.

The pretensions of nuclear nonproliferation allowed India as well as Israel and probably Pakistan to have weapons, so long as they did not call them such. By at last calling a spade a spade, India may have brought nuclear issues back to reality, and forced the United States to confront its own principles and priorities.

International Herald Tribune.

A World of Global Capital Markets Pushes Integration

By Paul Volcker

WASHINGTON — When the Group of Seven countries, plus Russia, sit down in England this week to ponder the Asian financial crisis, they should engage in a little self-examination as well.

For Americans in particular, the easy advice we give the Asians about quick reform of their banking systems stands in stark contrast to our inability to pass legislation rationalizing competition among our banks and competing financial institutions — an impasse that has lasted for more than 15 years amid entrenched private interests.

It is ironic that one of the matters at issue in our Congress today, as a result of recent mergers, is the political pressure brought to bear to weaken the traditional barriers to combinations of commerce and banking — precisely the practice in Asia and elsewhere that we rail against as a major source of institutional weakness.

More important in the present context, we have to deal with the simple fact that countries with strong banks, honest and democratic governments, relatively transparent accounting systems and experienced regulators have not been immune to banking crises. The list includes the United States.

The situation in Texas a few years ago makes the point. Once itself an independent country, Texas has economic mass — a GNP about the size of South Korea's. At the start of the 1980s, it had among the most strongly capitalized and profitable banks in the United States, and it was fiercely resistant to permitting any "foreign" ownership — "foreign" defined as New York or other out-of-state banks.

No doubt there is a certain amount of cronyism among Texans, and we later learned that there was a good deal of corruption among poorly supervised savings and loans. But, as one of the responsible commercial

bank regulators at the time, I would like to think that supervision was state-of-the-art. Certainly the bankers were experienced, accounting was in the hands of the big six accounting firms applying generally accepted standards, and Securities and Exchange Commission 10K reports and financial prospectuses were reviewed by the highest-paid analytic talent in the world.

But none of that institutional strength insulated Texas financial institutions from the financial excesses that accompanied the energy and real estate booms of the early 1980s.

Texas, however, did and does have enormous advantages relative to a small emerging economy. It was part of the world's largest common currency area (the United States). So there could be no loss of confidence in its currency, and no inflationary impetus from depreci-

ation. Its interest rates were those of the United States, and they tended to fall rather than rise. Large companies were typically part of dispersed national and international operations.

There was an effective lender of last resort, credible deposit insurance and a certain amount of regulatory forbearance.

Indonesia and Thailand, Mexico and the Czech Republic, are not Texas. But I think there are lessons to be learned from the Texas experience.

The first and most important is that small and open economies are inherently vulnerable to the volatility of global capital markets. The visual image of a vast sea of liquid capital strikes me as apt — the big and inevitable storms through which a great liner like the United States of America can safely sail will surely capsize even the sturdiest South Pacific canoe.

The natural defense is to seek the shelter of larger, inherently more diversified and stable ships. By the end of the 1980s, every major bank in Texas, with the encouragement and support of the federal government, had become part of a much larger national banking organization.

Similarly, and with heroic effort, Argentina has effectively adopted the dollar as a parallel currency, and only one sizable private bank remains without substantial foreign ownership and interest.

In Mexico, where resistance to foreign ownership of banks was a major issue only a few years ago in the NAFTA negotiations, four of the five largest banks today have important foreign capital.

Thailand, strongly protective of its banks and finance companies before the crisis broke, now

eagerly seeks foreign participation. On the other side of the world, in Eastern Europe, foreign ownership of banks is becoming commonplace.

In the nonfinancial world, there cannot be much doubt that similar forces are at work. Distressed industrial and commercial firms naturally look more favorably on injections of capital from abroad, whether by joint ventures or outright sale. Without doubt, to large and diversified international companies, this is a buying opportunity.

To put the point more generally, the economic logic of living in a world of global capital markets is much more integration, with the present crisis force-feeding the existing tendency.

The obvious counterpart is a growing lack of autonomy in economic management, easily perceived as an affront to sovereignty.

The potential for political resistance that flows from this perception will be all the greater if the changes seem to be forced not by economic logic and national decision but by external forces with their own agenda.

This is why international advice-givers should be prudent in their tone.

One thing is certain. If a country wants to participate in open markets for goods and other services, it cannot feasibly opt out of world financial markets. Finance today is inextricably intertwined with trade and investment.

The writer is a former chairman of the U.S. Federal Reserve. This comment, adapted from a lecture at the Paul Hecquett School of International Relations, was distributed by the Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

Imagine Another Group of Seven

By Thomas L. Friedman

WASHINGTON — It's that time again. This week the Group of Seven industrial democracies, plus Russia, gather in England for their annual gabfest about the world economy. And once again I offer my annual alternative G-7 — the ones you would invite if you were organizing a summit meeting and were not stuck with Canada, France, Italy, Britain, Japan, Germany and the United States.

Chair No. 1 this year would go to the world's leading expert for fixing the millennium computer bug — whoever he or she is. After all, the Group of Seven was founded in 1975 to deal with the OPEC oil shock, and there is a high probability that the millennium bug — a programming failure built into older microchips that renders them unable to recognize dates after Dec. 31, 1999, and therefore susceptible to shutdown after that day — will administer a similar economic shock.

"With the millennium bug, you may get your own computers adjusted in time, but what about the person or the company or the country your computers are connected with?" asked Robert Hormats of Goldman Sachs.

"The 1973 oil shock was produced by just a 5 percent cut in Arab oil output. If just 5 percent of the computers operating Russian nuclear plants or central banks in Latin America or airlines in Asia were to shut down, it could jolt the world economy just like the 1973 oil shock."

Chair No. 2 would be fought

over by the billionaire oligarchs who dominate Russia's economy today, because they represent not only enormous wealth and power but the real alternative to democratic globalization. That is, the world is slowly dividing between free market democracies and free market kleptocracies (robber baron states).

Russia's robber barons have already ripped off many of Russia's assets and could take over the state. The Russian Mafia has used its gains to drive up real estate prices from Paris to Tel Aviv — just one sign of the impact it could have on world affairs if its kleptocratic model triumphs in Moscow.

Chair No. 3 would be shared by Chinese Prime Minister Zhu Rongji, Iran's President Mohammed Khatami and Uganda's President Yoweri Museveni. All three are potential Mikhail Gorbachevs.

If they succeeded in turning their economic liberalizations into political liberalizations, it will have a huge impact on stability in Southeast Asia, the Middle East and East Africa.

Chair No. 4 would be occupied by a television set with a black box on the top. It's Web TV, recently bought by Microsoft, which, once it gets running, will popularize the Internet as never before. Because, for the first time, anyone with just a television set and a telephone line will be able to buy that black box for \$99 and connect to the World Wide Web — without needing a personal computer or learning Windows.

From the remotest villages

on earth, people will be able to send e-mail, participate in chat rooms or read great books. Web TV is the next wave of technology, which will be cheap information appliances that give you enormous connectivity. It will do for the Internet what the PC did for computing.

In Chair No. 5, the Japanese government would be officially disinherited and replaced by the Keizai Doyukai, Japan's Association of Corporate Executives, which represents the younger, more outspoken, less Establishment, more entrepreneurial Japanese business types. To the extent that there is a corporate lobby in Japan for cleaning up banks and really deregulating the economy to lift it from its malaise, it's the Keizai Doyukai, so let's give it a boost.

Chair No. 6 will feature an arm-wrestling match between the governors of the German and French central banks. The winner gets to explain to the Group of Seven how the euro is going to work and whether Europe will be run on the tightfisted model of the German central bank, which means that bankers will rule Europe, or the more socially sensitive French model, which means that politicians will rule.

Chair No. 7 will be shared by Special Prosecutor Ken Starr, who is considering busting President Bill Clinton, and the Justice Department's antitrust chief, Joel Klein, who is considering busting up Microsoft.

Few things could have more impact on global economics in 1998 than if Mr. Starr brought down Mr. Clinton and Mr. Klein brought down Bill Gates.

The New York Times.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1898: Gypsy Queen

PARIS — The queen of all the gypsies will be crowned next month, and the capital of these picturesque nomads will be transferred from Austria to the United States. The coronation will take place in the suburbs of Tokyo. Kan, the queen-elect is Molly Friar, daughter of the late queen and next in line of succession. Molly Friar is a real Romany. She has traveled in gypsy fashion all over the world, and speaks fourteen different languages. The Romanies are the oldest and proudest of the gypsy tribes. There are ten thousand gypsies in the United States, and their various camps are now a bustle preparatory to the annual summer pilgrimage.

1923: Negro Exodus

MACON, Ga. — The exodus of negroes from farms in large numbers is alarming the farmers here. Lumbermen are now offering pay as high as \$10 a day, and the negroes are quitting their jobs to hurry to lumber camps. Labor agents are active signing negroes for work in Northern steel mills, factories and building constructions, as well as lumber camps. Cotton planters are beginning to feel uneasy, especially as the Ku Klux Klan is facilitating the exodus.

1948: Marshall's Reply

WASHINGTON — Secretary of State George C. Marshall said that if Russia is seriously interested in improving world conditions there is urgent need for action through the United Nations. In a press conference prepared statement, Mr. Marshall ruled out the possibility of a direct two-nation settlement of the general problems between the United States and Russia "which also concern other governments."

Computers Get

WASHINGTON — The computer industry is expected to have a major impact on the economy in the coming years. The industry is growing rapidly, and its products are being used in a wide range of applications. The computer industry is expected to have a major impact on the economy in the coming years. The industry is growing rapidly, and its products are being used in a wide range of applications. The computer industry is expected to have a major impact on the economy in the coming years. The industry is growing rapidly, and its products are being used in a wide range of applications.

Free Markets Easily Spin Out of Control

By Angus Sillars
LONDON — The free market is a powerful force, but it can also be a dangerous one. The free market is a powerful force, but it can also be a dangerous one. The free market is a powerful force, but it can also be a dangerous one. The free market is a powerful force, but it can also be a dangerous one.

LETTERS

Don't Lose Sight of India's Debt

The Indian government's debt is a major concern for the world. The Indian government's debt is a major concern for the world. The Indian government's debt is a major concern for the world. The Indian government's debt is a major concern for the world.

Judgment on Paris

The Paris Peace Conference is a landmark event in world history. The Paris Peace Conference is a landmark event in world history. The Paris Peace Conference is a landmark event in world history. The Paris Peace Conference is a landmark event in world history.

Marshall's Reply

Secretary of State George C. Marshall's reply to the Russian proposal is a significant statement. Secretary of State George C. Marshall's reply to the Russian proposal is a significant statement. Secretary of State George C. Marshall's reply to the Russian proposal is a significant statement.

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OPINION/LETTERS

Computers Get Credit for More Than They Should

By Richard Harwood

WASHINGTON — Enthusiasm for the computer revolution and its beneficial impact on our lives often seems boundless. Business Week magazine referred to the computer last November as "a transcendent technology — like railroads in the 19th century and automobiles in the 20th." The Economist writes of "a change even of electrical power a century ago."

American companies are estimated to have invested nearly \$225 billion last year in computer purchases. It is said that half the labor force now uses computers in its work. Media companies are pouring resources into the Internet at a pell-mell rate. The educational system rapidly is retooling classrooms and schools to exploit the teaching and learning possibilities of these new information systems.

But as the revolution proceeds, voices of caution and skepticism are being heard. Todd Oppenheimer, an associate editor at Newsweek, warns in an Atlantic Monthly article that "there is

no good evidence that most uses of computers significantly improve teaching and learning." Nevertheless, a poll taken last year revealed that "U.S. teachers ranked computer skills and media technology as more 'essential' than the study of European history, biology, chemistry and physics; than dealing with social problems such as drugs and family breakdown; than learning practical job skills and than reading modern American writers such as Steinbeck and Hemingway or classic ones such as Plato and Shakespeare."

History, he notes, is full of technological fads embraced by educators who were later disillusioned by the results. Thomas Edison, he recalls, predicted 75 years ago that "the motion picture is destined to revolutionize our educational system and... in a few years it will supplant largely, if not entirely, the use of textbooks."

New York Review of Books the economic benefits of the computer revolution, he quotes the optimistic prediction of Michael Moynihan in a recent book, "The Coming American Renaissance," that "the single greatest driver of growth and creator of wealth over the next two decades" will come from "the information superhighway." That may happen, Mr. Madrick says, but on the evidence thus far the favorable impact of computer technology is far from proven.

Despite huge business investments in computers, Mr. Madrick writes, "the expansion that began in the early 1990s has remained the slowest in the post-World War II period."

Labor productivity is the heart of the matter, he argues. "Business has increased its investment in computers by more than 30 percent a year since the early 1970s, but the rate of growth of productivity has fallen from 2.85 percent a year between 1947 and 1973 to about 1.1 percent a year since 1973."

The economist Robert Solow, a Nobel Prize recipient, made a similar observation several years ago: "You can see the computer age everywhere but in the productivity statistics."

Another skeptic is Kurt Andersen of The New Yorker, whose focus is the Internet mania, fueled in large part by two professional castes — the media and Wall Street traders. He calls them "giddy journalists and giddy money managers" who have become "profoundly computer dependent."

"What journalists and financial professionals haven't understood, however, is that almost no one else finds computers and the Internet quite so essential," he writes. "And as a result of this improbable accident of history," he adds, the technology "now sits at the center of a speculative frenzy of religious intensity, a financial mania, a bubble."

Hyperbole aside, he's got a point. The media indeed have been inextricable in their promotion of the Internet, while Wall Street, as he puts it, "has been preternaturally inclined to sing the praises of digital technology." The making of instant millionaires through speculation in high-tech stocks is now fixed in the American dream.

Nothing is accomplished by criticizing the many miracles wrought by computer technology. Its influence on our lives is bound to increase, and in beneficial ways, I suspect. The problem is keeping a proper perspective: The machines are not cure-alls for the continuing problems in the U.S. educational system or for the continuing problems in the economy.

Jeff Madrick argues that the modern economy, with its constant demands for new products and innovations, "requires greater use of the one characteristic that machines cannot replace: human imagination."

At the same time that business and industry are supposedly downsizing by slashing layers of white-collar bureaucracy, the demand for office workers is growing rapidly. They once accounted for 30 percent of the labor force; they now account for 40 percent. And increasingly these office workers — now numbering 51 million — are well-paid professionals, while the number of menial office jobs — clerks and typists, for example — declines.

These professionals — accountants, salespeople, engineers, architects and so on — appear to be the prime source for business innovations, including, Mr. Madrick argues, "an increasingly rapid flow of new products and services, ad campaigns, marketing concepts, financing techniques and managerial reforms." In short, they produce "ideas" and employ skills unobtainable from machines.

The Washington Post.

Hope and Science: Caution Is the Essential Ingredient

By Ellen Goodman

BOSTON — Hope escaped from the lab the other day.

It happens from time to time. A kernel of hope will live in vials and petri dishes for years. There it will be nurtured, doubted, prodded, studied. Mice will be sacrificed. Scientists will spend their days and nights working on it.

Then, suddenly, a door is set ajar and hope makes a run for it.

It escapes into the public air and expands in that heady atmosphere until it seems ready to burst.

This time the latch was popped by a front-page article in The New York

Magazine that said, "You can see the computer age everywhere but in the productivity statistics."

As predictably as bear market follows bull, the brakes were applied to this rush. James Watson complained that he did not say there would be a cure in two years — or perhaps did not mean to.

Oncologists reminded us that it would be years until the tests were carried out and the results were in.

Judah Folkman warned against the belief that the new therapy "will emerge as stand-alone drugs of unprecedented power."

But the story of this escapee says much about what happens when hope breaks out as it does these days with the frequency and suddenness of a news report.

We live now on the cusp of cures. Cures for AIDS, for diabetes, for cancer.

We do not know at any given moment when the latest promise will be the next success (another Salk vaccine) or the next disappointment (another interferon).

One week, tamoxifen is touted as a preventative for breast cancer; the next week, angiotensin and endothelin are seen as cures.

Science is practiced in public. The understandable urgency of a patient conflicts with the necessary patience of a researcher.

So the story of this "cure for cancer" is the clearest example yet of our two cultures: hope and science.

Today, hope springs and science treads deliberately, checking its footsteps. Hope goes for the light; science, as Dr. Folkman said, goes down "countless blind alleys to find one that goes through."

Hope talks of breakthroughs; science is as deliberate as the researcher in Dr. Folkman's lab who had to collect 50 gallons of mouse urine drop by drop.

What do we know from this latest report? Two things: that it is a long, long way from mouse to man, and that we may be on the right path.

Today, somewhere a man dying of cancer has read that there is a book in the works about Dr. Folkman's therapy. The book is entitled: "Conquering Cancer."

Let it be so. But for now, hope must head back to the lab.

The Boston Globe

Free Markets Easily Spin Out of Control

By Angus Sibley

LONDON — Few platitudes are more tiresome than the denigration of European economic policies by American and British free-market zealots. They seldom mention France or Germany, Belgium or Sweden, without a sneering incantation of their favorite adjective, *schlemiel*.

Europeans, they say, are culpable because they discourage unemployment and treat its victims with a trace of generosity; because they display less entrepreneurial initiative than Americans; because they are less competitive in world markets than underpaid, over-worked Asians.

Continental economies are struggling today because, designed for stability, they find it hard to cope with the frenetic pace of economic change. Under Margaret Thatcher in Britain and Ronald Reagan in the United States, flexible structures developed, and these adapt more promptly.

For those less willing to embrace an unsettled way of life, the devotees of the unfettered free market have nothing but contempt. It never occurs to them to doubt their dogma: The best pace of change is the fastest possible. For they are the midwives of the economic revolution now in progress. They love their revolution. They fervently hope that it will go on forever.

Marx and his comrades, in London in 1850, spoke of maintaining a permanent revolution. Then, as now, agitators revelled in the fantasy that their destructive upheavals would continue indefinitely. But today, revolutionaries have the gall to call themselves conservatives.

Competition, not technology, is these revolutionaries' prime weapon. The first computers were built in the 1930s; for 40 years their development and application were gradual.

It was the intensely competitive atmosphere of Silicon Valley from the 1970s onward that triggered the headlong rush to innovation that we know today, in which software is considered obsolete after three months. The demolition of restraints on competition in industry and commerce is forcing the Valley's customers to adopt the latest novelties with utmost haste, lest they fall behind.

Untrammelled competition interacts with information technology in a circular process of self-feeding acceleration. The competitive market stimulates technological development, while



By Michael O'Brien

the technology itself further sharpens competitive pressures by enabling suppliers to modify their products more quickly and customers to compare prices more widely.

One is reminded of the series-wound direct current electric motor that drives streetcars and subway trains. Such a motor, when in the workshop for maintenance, must be allowed to run free on full power. For without the restraining inertia of the train, it will spin faster and faster till its center flies apart. Nobody wants an accident of that kind with a traction motor weighing two or three tons.

Societies exposed to the hyperaccelerative forces of unrestrained competition are likewise at risk of disintegration. Unlike electrical engineers, libertarian ideologues seem blind to this risk. Some of them may indeed welcome it, such is their disdain for tradition, community and stability.

Throughout history, economic change has disrupted the lives of individuals and families and communities, often painfully. The pain may be diffused and moderate if changes are gradual or if, at any one time, only a few sectors of the economy are affected. But free marketeers know no moderation.

They call for maximum intensity of competition throughout all economies worldwide, and this in an age whose technology ensures that competition brings changes ever more speedily.

Here is a recipe for rapid, persistent, accelerating, ubiquitous change. No one should be surprised if the accompanying pains are acute and pervasive; if societies thus afflicted become disoriented, rootless, anarchic, violent; if ugly political movements seize the resulting opportunities.

History suggests that upheavals are followed by contrasting phases of oppressive order. After the French Revolution came the Bourbon reaction. The Bolshevik cataclysm gave way to Soviet ossification. *Franquismo* followed the Spanish civil war. Victorian laissez-faire bred the obstructive trade unions and inflated welfare states that libertarians loathe.

For those who desire civilized order, this historical sequence offers but partial comfort. For reckless economic revolutionaries, it threatens nemesis. Who shall say they have not deserved it?

The writer is an actuary in London. He contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Don't Lose Sight of India's Democratic Base

Arguably the greatest achievement of modern India has been the preservation of the essentials of democracy in a country of more than 900 million people. In its 50 years as an independent state it has been one of those nations where elections serve the purpose of expressing the will of the people, where freedom of the press is taken for granted and the traditions of judiciary are respected.

The importance of all this easily transcends national borders. Not only does it set an example to other nations in Asia, in general and South Asia in particular, but even more important is the time-tested truth that democracies intrinsically tend to be more peaceful than nondemocracies.

Clamor against the Indian nuclear tests should not be allowed to drown out these fundamentals. There is, furthermore, reason to at least question the legitimacy of much protest. India has broken no international treaty or obligation, not having subscribed to any of the pacts that it judged to be simply perpetuating the monopoly on nuclear armaments by the permanent members

of the United Nations Security Council.

The acknowledged nuclear powers constitute the core of the international world order. Small wonder that one of the largest nations in the world does not want to be left out.

There are, admittedly, many more aspects to this development.

In the first place, tests do not have to lead to an armaments race. They may in the end prove to be more of a stabilizing factor than an invitation to conflict. Having shown its capabilities, India may have prevented less-welcome developments. In addition, being a member of the nuclear club may facilitate India's joining international arrangements on a footing of equality.

And second, with respect to armaments, is it not high time that the same rules should be applied all around?

E.M. SCHOO.

Egmond aan Zee, Netherlands.

The writer, a former Dutch minister for development cooperation, was ambassador to India.

Rushed Judgment on Paris

The Washington Post's outrageous editorial on the mission of French troops in Bosnia and the pursuit of war criminals ("France and Bosnia," IHT, April 25) demands clarification.

With regard to the attitude of the French officer who The Post says might have collaborated with Radovan Karadzic in his efforts to evade capture, let me point out that the officer was conducting a mission similar to those carried out by several of his colleagues from other contingents in the NATO-led stabiliza-

tion force. The conditions under which he was recalled to France were set forth in a communiqué issued by the French Ministry of Defense.

The Washington Post is seizing the opportunity offered by this episode to immediately cast blame on France and the French Army. I consider this all-too-careless judgment to be an insult both to the memory of the 72 French soldiers who died for peace in Bosnia and to the decisive role France played in the spring of 1995 to get its closest allies to commit themselves — finally, decisively and on the ground — to peace in Bosnia.

FRANÇOIS BUJON DE L'ESTANG, Washington.

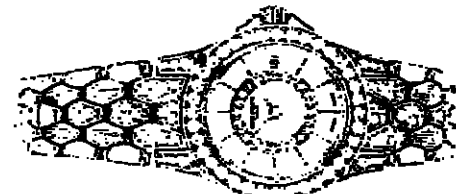
The writer is the French ambassador to the United States.

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'Saturday Night Fever': Why Not Stick to the Video?

By Sheridan Morley
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — The passion for turning movie musicals into stage shows suggests either a terrible lack of new theatrical pieces or, more plausibly, a recognition by theater managers that if they are now to charge upward of £30 a ticket they had better be selling something people already know they are going to enjoy even before the curtain goes up.

"Saturday Night Fever," at the London Palladium is thus a reasonably faithful re-creation of the 1977 box-office winner. In place of John Travolta we have a reasonably adequate stand-in, Adam Garcia, who has clearly studied the video long enough to perfect that curious body line strutting with the outstretched index finger that was the hallmark of an otherwise unexciting movie. But the real Palladium star is Robin Wagner, whose immense sets give us a

replica of Brooklyn's vast Verrazano-Narrows Bridge and a vast spaceship that descends, breathing smoke and blazing floodlights, from the roof of the old nightclub where most of the action is still set.

There the good news ends: Travolta may have managed to jump-start his old Hollywood career back into some kind of afterlife, but the musical that made him a star is now as dead as the character who jumps to his death off the bridge, presumably so as to avoid having to sing yet another wedge of the Bee Gees' cheesy Muzak score. This has always been a "West Side Story" for the brain-dead, and although Arlene Phillips's frenetic choreography has a certain ghastly period accuracy, as a director she has singularly failed to give the Gibb Brothers' inane sing-along any real energy or heart.

The result lurches uneasily from book musical to rock concert, totally lacking the flair that might have made it a worth-

while staging. Curiously, this old dinosaur comes back to us now looking vastly more dated than "Show Boat," which preceded it by half a century. Not so much recast as deeply undercut, "Saturday Night Fever" deserved to be closed at its first intermission and will doubtless, like the other re-reads of its ilk, lie around the Palladium stage cluttering up the West End for months if not years to come, complete with a score so deeply unmemorable that you forget the hit numbers even while they are being sung. If you hated the movie first time around, stay away from the show; if you loved it, stay home with the video. Preferably of something better.

The central problem, here as in "Grease," is that a score made up of pop and rock songs can never take the place of show songs designed to further or pursue a plot. What is scary is how many audiences now seem neither to

notice nor to care about the difference.

Were we now to compile a profit and loss account for the director Stephen Daldry as he prepares to hand over his management of the Royal Court to Ian Rickson, there is no doubt that he has continued, notably with "Mojo" and several Irish imports, that theater's great tradition for the discovery of new writing. On the loss side, he has ripped out the hearts of two much-loved West End theaters (the Ambassadors and the Duke of York's) while occupying them until the new Sloane Square building can be completed, and unfathomably lent the Court's prestige to Sarah Kane, a young playwright who managed to hit the headlines three years ago with her first play, "Blasted," set in war-torn Leeds and mainly memorable for babies being eaten alive and eyes gouged out. Now she's back, at the

Duke of York's, with the ironically titled "Cleansed" in which a good many more eyes get put out or forcibly injected.

And here it is not just the eyes that have it. Though the set resembles a concentration camp, we are surprisingly within a university campus where limbs are lopped off, tongues tortured, rats encouraged to gnaw living flesh and sex changes conducted by force. It will doubtless be argued that Shakespearean and much of the Jacobean theater was equally gory, but in all those revengers' tragedies there was a kind of salvation, a kind of humanity that won out in the end against impossible odds.

Kane offers none of that. Like a naughty schoolgirl desperately trying to shock an increasingly bored and languid audience she piles horror upon horror without ever bothering to give us a character or a situation to care about. Jeremy Herbert's sets are wonderfully

inventive and stylized, but if even a fraction of that talent had gone into the writing we might have had a play worth serious consideration.

As it is, "Cleansed" is in every sense a shocker, but the greatest shock of all has to do with neither drugs nor rats nor restitched genitals: it is that anyone at the Court thought Kane a playwright worth staging, let alone staging twice.

"Cleansed" will doubtless live on its own publicity as the most violent play of the season, but that alone is hardly enough. It is also a tacky, dry apology for a play, in which any real skill of characterization or plotting is simply replaced by yet another bloody amputation. What we have here is a weird attempt to combine "Waiting for Godot" with "The Duchess of Malfi" and it misses both by more than a mile. "Cleansed" leaves you feeling as grubby as James Macdonald's production.



Enrico Rava, sometimes called the godfather of Italian jazz, picked up the trumpet after hearing Miles Davis.

Trumpet Player on a Choice Coast

By Mike Zwerin
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Enrico Rava lives in Chiavari, on the Italian Riviera, in a house overlooking the Mediterranean with a fine view of Portofino. A choice coast for a trumpet player.

He has lived there for eight years now, and he calls it "paradise." It is near no major market. He travels to work, mostly in Italy and France, about 150 nights a year. That, he figures, is just about perfect. When not working he prefers to stay home. He's married, he likes to read. And when he does work, he would rather it be in Chambery or Perugia than, say, Philadelphia.

Rava has been called, with only slight irony, the godfather of Italian jazz. To mix metaphors, with his long white hair he could be a guru. Except for his poetic edge, he might also be a stand-up comic doing an Italian jazz musician impression. He is a role and musical model for, and an employer of, many of the many good young players south of the Alps.

North of the Alps and across the sea, Mauro Negri, Stefano Bollani and Gianluca Petrella are small names. Even Enrico Rava is not exactly on every bebopper's tongue up here and over there. Living in New York through most of the '70s, he worked often with Carla Bley and Don Cherry and with the Argentine tenorman Gato Barbieri, who attracted a lot of attention playing on the sound track for Bernardo Bertolucci's film "The Last Tango in Paris."

While in New York, Rava was signed to a record deal by a multinational company. "It was a very big contract," he said. "At least for those days. They gave me thousands of dollars up front." The contract covered a jazz LP and a pop single for juke boxes.

He made sure it stipulated that the LP would be released first. He was interested

in music more than commerce. The record company suits thought otherwise.

They were thinking "Serpico." Rava was young, he spoke English with a musical Mediterranean accent. This is how show-biz suits think — a good-looking Italian playing the theme music from a hit movie about an honest Italian cop starring an actor named Al Pacino was a package that just could not miss. Plus, Barbieri has an Italian name and he won a Grammy blowing a horn on a sound track for a film by a director named Bertolucci. Think about it.

When he discovered that the single was to be released first, contract or no contract, he canceled. ("Serpico" never came out and he sold the LP elsewhere.)

One afternoon, he was sitting in a café near the Parisian club he was working. It was too small to pay very much money but, Rava said, "I love to play clubs like this. I just love to play. Period. But remember, I'm not a poor guy who began to play jazz because it was the only way I could make money. Exactly the opposite. I'm from a fairly wealthy family."

He was born in Trieste, grew up in Turin, became a fan while still in his teens. His collection included "thousands of records, from New Orleans to whatever." Playing an instrument, however, had not yet occurred to him.

"Then one day when I was 18, I heard Miles Davis play a concert in Torino. All my life I had never had such an incredible emotional experience." The next day, Rava went out and bought a trumpet.

This is worth a short detour. "Experiencing" Miles has been "incredible" for people from many walks of life. "Meeting Miles changed my life," said the rock millionaire Chris Blackwell, founder of Island Records, who later launched the career of Bob Marley. "The experience is burned into my mind."

The CEO of a large American bank wanted his organization to function "like Miles Davis's band." And ever

since he played the music for Louis Malle's "Elevator to the Gallows," other directors have used a Harmon-muted trumpet accompanying shots of lonely streets at night.

Rava continued: "I never imagined such a sound was possible until I heard Miles live on stage." The self-taught Rava learned more about playing the trumpet by talking to Chet Baker when the latter lived in Turin for a few months. After assimilating all these American influences, he began to translate them into his own experience.

He recorded arias from Puccini's "Tosca" ("Puccini reminds me of Gil Evans"). From time to time, he and the French accordionist Richard Galliano present a program of Nino Rota songs from Fellini movies. Rava has recorded his version of arias from "Carmen" and performed them in China, Canada, France and Italy. He wrote the music for a film by Bertolucci's brother, Giuseppe.

In the rest of Europe, as in America, players become stars because the major labels push them. "In Italy," Rava explained, "it doesn't work that way. Partly this is because jazz concerts began to be sponsored by political parties in the '70s — particularly the Communist Party. This created big audiences that were less influenced by the multinationals and world trends than elsewhere."

"It's an active scene," he said. "And very interesting. There's lots of work. Each Italian city has its crazy man who is absolutely in love with jazz and who finds ways to convince the bureaucracy to put on concerts. The audience is really growing now. I see 16-year-olds out there. They don't go to a conservatory but they have a culture already. This is very new. A few years ago, the audience was middle-aged and getting older every year. Now they go from 15 to 75. We've got them all now."

Reborn American Ballet Theater

By Anna Kisselgoff
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The karma is especially positive at American Ballet Theater these days. "Energy begets energy," Kevin McKenzie, the company's artistic director, said before reeling off the names of choreographers he plans to commission in a troupe that increasingly attracts dancers from around the world.

For Michael Kaiser, Ballet Theater's executive director, the focus is on innovative partnerships with tour sponsors, audience-development and new big-time donors. "Any organization that makes good art can be saved," he said.

With five seasons behind him on the eve of a new eight-week engagement that opens Monday at the Metropolitan Opera House, McKenzie can afford to look ahead rather than back, a drastic change from 1992-93 when the talk of

the dance world was that one of international ballet's most prestigious companies might not survive.

A former Ballet Theater star, McKenzie was asked by its board at that time to lead a company demoralized by financial woes and a turnover of three directors in three years (the others were Mikhail Baryshnikov and Jane Herman). After a cautious start, limited by budgetary considerations, the new regime visibly gained momentum.

Excitement stemmed from an influx of brilliant male dancers (Vladimir Malakhov, Jose Manuel Carreno, Angel Corella, Ethan Stiefel, Desmond Richardson and Vadim Belotserkovsky), and the box office registered a boost with an added dose of full-length ballets, a genre preferred by the opera-house audience at the Met.

Last summer, Ballet Theater eliminated an accumulated deficit of more than \$5 million. For a change, the current fiscal year registers a small surplus.

Reflecting in an interview on how these figures have translated into his outlook since 1993, McKenzie said: "I don't spend energy trying not to do something. Now I can do something positive and long range."

Essentially, his thinking has crystallized around three ideas: the promotion of full-length ballets, the need for performing in different-sized theaters and a concern for creativity, envisaged in a major commissioning project. McKenzie also says that the word "theater" in Ballet Theater does not necessarily refer to dramatic works; theater, he said, should be understood as a form whose "duty is to challenge one's assumptions."

Traditionally considered a touring company, Ballet Theater has also redefined and extended its New York presence and will, as last year, perform at both the Met (spring) and City Center (fall). The Met repertoire will concentrate on full-evening works while the City Center will have a mixed repertoire.

*They wouldn't have survived their migration
if they couldn't have stopped at their feeding grounds;
they couldn't have stopped if construction on a
nearby power plant had scared them away;
the construction wouldn't have waited
if not for the engineers of ABB.*

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THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

A More Fe

By Joan Dupont
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Ask Gilles Jacob what he does for fun during the Cannes film festival, and he shakes his head darkly — he is a party person, the film's selection committee actually looking festive this year, pleased with his pick, no regrets. After last year's 50th anniversary — the much-celebrated, few good films — the new vintage is promising, with suitably brave themes for this fin de siècle: tortured families, blighted children and plenty of out-of-the-world scenarios. "Ever after year, we get a good crop," said Jacob, who viewed 25 per cent more films this year than last, and came up with a slate of 22 top directors in competition, as well as great names — Jeanne Berthelin, Manoel De Oliveira, Aureo Riquelme, Carlos Saura — out of competition.



Last year in Cannes, the festival could with one of the best of nature survived. The lines were not cyclical. Unfortunately, it was a site of... For the first time, the festival was... the presence of the... which is why... through to the... which is why... the construction on the... prevented them... The... (highly efficient) was... through...

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A More Festive Look to the 1998 Cannes Festival

By Joan Dupont
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Ask Gilles Jacob what he does for fun during the Cannes film festival, and he shakes his head darkly — he is not a party person, the film's thing. The man in charge of the selection committee is actually looking festive this year, pleased with his pick, no regrets. After last year's 50th anniversary — much celebration, few good films — the new vintage is promising, with suitably bizarre themes for this fin de siècle: benighted families, blighted children and plenty of end-of-the-world scenarios. "Every other year we get a good crop," said Jacob, who viewed 25 percent more films this year than last, and came up with a slate of 22 top directors in competition, as well as great names — Ingmar Bergman, Manoel de Oliveira, Ajuro Ripstein, Carlos Saura — out of competition.

The jury, headed by Martin Scorsese, who is something of a hero in France for his independent stance and appetite for films, is made up of the actresses Sigourney Weaver, Winona Ryder, Lena Olin, Chiara Mastroianni, the writer Zoe Valdes and the filmmakers Chen Kaige, Michael Winterbottom and Alain Corneau, along with the rap star MC Solaar.

The festival opens Wednesday — Isabelle Huppert is mistress of ceremonies — with Mike Nichols' "Primary Colors," a bow to Hollywood prowess, out of competition, and closes May 24 with Roland Emmerich's "Godzilla," a salute to the special-effects gang, also out of competition.

But the real opening is Patrice Chéreau's "Ceux qui m'aiment prendront le train" (Those who love me will take the train). After his epic "La Reine Margot," the director has made a personal and provocative movie about an extended family — in which most mem-

bers seem to be in some way homosexual — on their way to bury a spiritual father (Jean-Louis Trintignant) in the provinces. Charles Berling, Pascal Greggory, Valeria Bruni-Tedeschi and Vincent Perez (who appears later as a fetching transsexual) take the train for the rocky ride to Limoges.

In another French film, Benoît Jacquot's "L'École de la chair" (School of the flesh) adapted from a Yukio Mishima novel, Huppert plays a Parisian stylist who falls for a male prostitute acted by Olivier Martinez, while Vincent Lindon plays a transvestite — cross-dressing and crossbreeding seem to be in this year.

The festival works at the fever pitch of family crisis, with its love-hate convulsions, fratricide conflicts, killer crowds and mass ceremonies. There are rebellious sons, and stars who turn up in other guises, actors like John Turturro, Roberto Benigni and Robert Duvall, who reappear as directors, and Palme

d'Or winners, like Shohei Imamura, who has won twice, now with a film out of competition, while Theo Angelopoulos, thrice dished in his hopes for the supreme prize, has come to try again.

Paul Auster, who was on the jury last year, opens "Un Certain Regard" (A Certain Look), an official noncompetitive section, with "Lulu on the Bridge," a film of his own that he calls "a small opera," starring Harvey Keitel, Mira Sorvino, Willem Dafoe and Vanessa Redgrave. "Being on the jury meant a lot of responsibility and not a lot of time for fooling around, which I thought was what Cannes is designed for, no?"

A novelist who co-directed "Smoke" and "Blue in the Face" with Wayne Wang, Auster has had his first taste of directing on his own: "You are the loneliest person in the world, surrounded by dozens of other people." He is happy his film is in "Un Certain Regard." "It's more relaxed," he said, "and I'm in good company."

Competitors, too, are in good company. The opening weekend's big happening is bound to be Terry Gilliam's "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas," adapted from Hunter Thompson's cult novel, and considered a cult film even before hitting La Croisette, thanks to Johnny Depp, who plays the journalist and who appeared here last year with his own film, "The Brave."

Claude Miller's "La Classe de neige" (Ski school) — a cast of schoolboys, no stars — is adapted from a novel by Emmanuel Carrère, who worked on the script. The movie, shot in Haute Savoie, is a spooky reminder of current events: A boy, surrounded by intimations of abuse, is dropped off at camp by his father, who disappears.

"La Vie rêvée des anges" (The Dream life of angels) by the Frenchman Erick Zanca, starring Elodie Bouchez and Gregoire Colin, the only first film in competition, is about two girls trying to make it in the provinces. Jacob says the movie has the true-grit touch of modern English film.

Tsai Ming-liang's "The Hole" is an event for followers of the gifted second-generation Taiwanese director — Scorsese is said to be a fan. After "Vive l'Amour," "Rebels of the Neon God," and "The River," Tsai has made an end-of-the-millennium drama. The other Taiwanese film in competition is "Flowers of Shanghai" by Hou Hsiao-hsien, set in a bordello at the end of the 19th century and starring Tony Leung.



Paul Auster on the set of his new movie, "Lulu on the Bridge."

the Hong Kong actor who played in Hou's legendary "City of Sadness."

The Italian actor-auteur Nanni Moretti is back on his scooter, in "Aprile," which looks like another chapter of his "Caro Diario" ("Dear Diary"). Benigni's "La Vita e Bella" ("Life Is Beautiful"), a comedy about the Shoah, has already created a stir in Italy.

SOMETHING like a Danish new wave may be on its way with "Festen" by Thomas Vinterberg, 30, who belongs to a collective called Dogma 95, a 10-point program created in Copenhagen under the influence of Lars von Trier. The Grand Prix winner for "Breaking the Waves" two years ago, von Trier is back in competition with "Idioterne" (The Idiots), a film that was also made according to the rules of the collective: The movie must be set in the here and now, exteriors only, hand-held camera, no score, no special lighting or filters and no credit for the director, who is not supposed to impose his own point of view on the film. Which doesn't necessarily mean no ego is involved.

From Britain, there is Ken Loach, with "My Name Is Joe," a comedy set in Glasgow, and John Boorman is back with "The General," which takes place in Ireland and is based on Paul

Williams's biography of the outlaw Martin Cahill, starring Brendan Gleeson and Jon Voight. The Australian Rolf de Heer returns to the competition with "Dance Me to My Song," written and interpreted by Heather Rose, a handicapped woman who speaks through a synthesizer.

American independents have their day with Hal Hartley's "Henry Fool," a boy's own story about his depressive mother and nymphomaniac sister. Lodge Kerrigan, who made a chilling first impression in 1994 with "Clean, Shaven," a portrait of a schizophrenic, presents "Claire Dolan," about a call girl who scrambles to get to another life, starring Katrin Cartledge. "Velvet Goldmine" is Todd Haynes's foray into the world of glam rock; Ewan McGregor, who plays a cross between Lou Reed and Iggy Pop, performs the musical numbers himself.

The competition winds up with films by directors too rarely heard from: the Russian Alexei Guerman, with "Khrustaliov, My Car!," a chronicle of the corrupt '50s and '60s in the Soviet Union, and Hector Babenco's "Corazon Luminado" (Heart on Fire). Born in Argentina, Babenco, who settled in Brazil, gives a spin of magic realism to memoirs of a melancholy adolescence.

Last year in South Humber Bank, UK, one of the wonders of technology collided with one of the wonders of nature and something wonderful happened.

Nature survived.

The largest combined cycle power plant in Europe was under construction.

Unfortunately, it was on a site adjacent to a feeding ground for migratory birds.

Fortunately, the company doing the construction was ABB. You see, ABB is one company that's not only committed to the business of electric power generation, it's also committed to the preservation of the environment.

And it's a commitment that stretches from ABB's senior management all the way through to its subcontractors on the construction site.

Which is why during the months between September and March,

construction on the plant, which might have alarmed the migrating birds and prevented them from feeding, was abruptly stopped.

The power plant, which is representative of modern power plant technology (highly efficient with minimal impact on the surrounding environment), was finished only after the birds had completed their annual migration through the area.

A fact that made English environmentalists very happy. Not to mention the birds.

INGENUITY AT WORK

ABB

Canibus Shakes Up Hip-Hop Rising Star Aims to Promote Content Over Style

By Neil Strauss
New York Times Service

LOS ANGELES — On the back lot of Universal Studios, hip-hop's rising star Canibus is lounging in a trailer, on break from filming a video for "How Come," a single he raps on from the Warren Beatty movie "Bulworth." He is also waiting for a meeting with an executive at Dreamworks Records who wants to sign him to a publishing deal. In his back pocket is a cassette of a song that the teenage singer and sitcom star Brandy wants him to rap on, and in his hands is a bottle of Hype, a natural energy beverage that he says he drinks to immunize himself from the hype bombarding him. The drink, he says, keeps him from getting "hype-notized" and succumbing to "hype-nitis," which occurs when you believe your own hype. It is a disease common among pop stars.

"I have cases and cases of Hype," Canibus said, a smirk spreading across his face. "You will never catch me without one."

Canibus, a 23-year-old from Jersey City, certainly needs the protection. He has released only one single, yet he has become one of the most talked about and respected rappers working today.

Canibus's fame comes not just from years spent building a reputation as one of the smartest, toughest and tightest rhymer on the underground or from the songs he has performed on by rappers like the Fugees, Common, the Lost Boyz and L.L. Cool J.

It doesn't even come from the fact that his manager, Wyclef Jean of the Fugees, is a man much busier and more famous than he. It is in large part because he has become embroiled in the biggest rap feud of the year. And nearly everyone in hip-hop is excited about this fight because it doesn't involve guns. It involves music.

In rap's early days, disputes and challenges were often settled in battles — neighborhood contests of disk-jockeying or rapping prowess that took place in parks and community centers. As rap became a big business and street gangs were lured by the power and money, insults were often responded to with fists, knives or guns.

But late last year, when L.L. Cool J. railed against Canibus, spending an entire verse of the song "4,3,2,1" calling him a cocky, talentless upstart, Canibus struck back at his former idol on wax, recording a vicious, contemptuous single with extra vocals from Mike Tyson, "Second Round K.O.," shot out of the underground and into the Top 40.

L.L. Cool J. retaliated, releasing "The Ripper Strikes Back," a taunting single that responds point for point to Canibus's barbs about his children, sexuality and fans. The exchange has music fans hoping that Canibus, on his debut album due in July on Group Home/Universal Records, will take hip-hop back to its more benign pre-gangsta roots in boasting and battling. But their hopes may be misplaced. Canibus has other intentions for hip-hop.

"People are interpreting me as bringing it back," Canibus said. "Wrong. I'm from an entirely different era. Don't put me in a box and say I'm taking it back. I'm taking it forward! They just don't have enough to judge me on."

Despite his confrontational, battle-hungry lyrics, Canibus's real agenda is to equate intelligence with toughness, to promote content over style and, as he raps in one song, "make you question any and everything you've ever believed in." He derived his name from the marijuana plant, he says, not because he advocates using the drug but because he likes to think of his lyrics as activating the mind in the way the plant does.

A self-confessed computer junkie who can't stay away from the Internet, he doesn't fit the mold of most rappers. As his producer, Jerry Wonder, said, "I think he's from another planet." In Canibus's thinking, rap raps, he compares himself to Einstein instead of, say, John Gotti and talks about picking up women on-line instead of in bars.

Where other rappers court legitimacy by bragging about gang-banging, drug-dealing and prison sentences, Canibus proudly says he was a hermit who never went out as a child, preferring to play Atari games and live in his head instead of the streets. In a world in which rappers thank God on their albums, Canibus says he places his faith in science over religion. In fact, he spent a year at DeKalb Community College in Atlanta studying computer science though his real ambition was genetic engineering.

"I was always an anti-social person growing up," he explained. "I couldn't understand a lot of things people would do and say. And no one ever understood me. I always had a hard time in school. People always laughed and made fun of me because I couldn't find my niche." Born Germaine Williams to a Jamaican cricket player named Basil Williams, Canibus is a tough man with a soft heart. During the filming of the "How Come" video, he disappeared to buy a Nintendo 64 game console for the 10-year-old son of one of the women working on the set because, he said, the son was a thinker and a loner who reminded him of himself at that age.

CANIBUS emerged from his shell in the early 1990s, when he made his way into the rap world on the business side, helping start Group Home, the management company that represented the Lost Boyz. His real goal, however, was to become a rapper, and he started rapping on underground mix tapes made by DJ Clue and putting himself through a training regime that he compares with Tyson's.

"Tyson gets in the ring and knocks people out," Canibus said. "I get in the mike booth and knock people out. His training process is bananas; the stuff I go through is coconuts. People think I just sit home all day and scratch myself or go to a club every night and get drunk and stoned and then write rhymes. No, practice makes perfect. I sit for hours in front of the mirror and just look at myself

when I rhyme, and I say certain words and I accent certain things. I read. I exercise my mind. Input equals output. That's a fact of life."

One of Canibus's biggest breaks came when L.L. Cool J. invited him to appear on "4,3,2,1," which explains why he was so upset when he heard the final version of the song and L.L. called him a "little boy" and "amateur." And, threatening, "Blow you to pieces." It seems that L.L. Cool J. interpreted a line Canibus rapped during the recording of the song as an insult. (The line was about tearing L.L. Cool J.'s tattoo of a microphone off his arm.) But Canibus says it wasn't intended as derogatory and that L.L. Cool J. should have been familiar with his aggressive style. L.L. Cool J. declined to be interviewed.

"During the six months after the record was made, it was very difficult for me," Canibus said. "My life was balanced on a scale right there, and it felt like a boulder dropping on one side against a rice grain. I live in Jersey, and it was difficult for me to just walk down the street to my block and go home because people were always coming up to me and asking questions."

WHEN L.L. Cool J. released "The Ripper Strikes Back," accusing Canibus of, among other things, being an overnight sensation thanks to the feud, Canibus says he wasn't hurt this time. He was flattered. "I got him to respond," Canibus said. "I actually got him screaming my name on a record. That's what he wanted least of all. This is cooler than it being something violent."

Canibus says a battle is like a chess game and constantly says that he lives his life in "if-then statements," meaning that before he does anything, he runs through every possible outcome in his mind. Some friends call him paranoid, and, in fact, he can pontificate for hours about alien intelligence, government plots and J.F.K. assassination theses and has reams of computer printouts on those subjects.

"To me everything is a conspiracy movie," he said. "When I get up in the morning, automatically I'm worried about what am I doing, what are you doing, what am I thinking. What you say will cause me to think one way; if you say something else, it'll cause me to think another way."

Somewhat, this man who portrays himself as an intellectual loner in conversation has become one of the rap world's most watched figures. At dinner after the video shoot, Canibus was surrounded by stars and moguls, including Beatty, members of the Fugees and Jimmy Iovine, president of Interscope Records. In the middle of the meal, Wyclef shouted to Iovine: "Watch this kid. He's going to be big. Real big."

From the other end of the table, Canibus's business partner boasted: "Canibus is going to change the face of rap. There's no one like him." Meanwhile, Canibus just slumped in his seat, smirking, as he lifted a can of Hype to his lips and took a long sip.

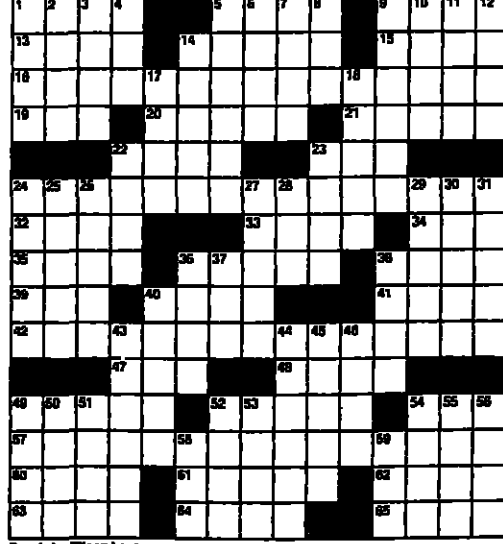
CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Nick and Nora's dog
- 2 Lives (up)
- 3 Film fragment
- 4 In an
- 5 ka-Seltzer ad
- 6 in of dance
- 7 notch
- 8 nkie Carle's me song
- 9 unwork
- 10 erent
- 11 v some
- 12 res are
- 13 chased
- 14 agnyde
- 15 iting
- 16 Mosque
- 17 Level of karate expertise
- 18 Ralph McInerney novel
- 19 Rough
- 20 Thrill ride cry
- 21 Believer
- 22 Netman Nastase
- 23 Military bigwigs
- 24 Recite the rosary, e.g.
- 25 Tin Tin
- 26 Animal shelter
- 27 Aunt Jemima alternative
- 28 Pachino drama
- 29 1997 U.S. Open winner
- 30 Went in haste

DOWN

- 1 Cathedral area
- 2 Soda machine
- 3 tricker
- 4 "Bungay" (Wells novel)
- 5 Financing abbr.
- 6 Cobbler
- 7 Lohengrin's bride
- 8 House of Lords member
- 9 Neighbor of Isr.
- 10 Eyetooth
- 11 Race place
- 12 Orange discard
- 13 Elroy Jetson's dog
- 14 Shakespearean villain
- 15 Shake off
- 16 Queen in Dumas's "Twenty Years After"
- 17 Bossa nova relative
- 18 Guardhouses
- 19 Lighter marker
- 20 Sterling series
- 21 The Pointer Sisters' "Excited"
- 22 Like rain?
- 23 Clouds
- 24 Calypso
- 25 Body shape?
- 26 Jog
- 27 Hair salon stock
- 28 The hot corner
- 29 Sun: Prefix
- 30 TV's J.R. or Jock
- 31 Tower over
- 32 Sounds during medical checkups
- 33 Sign of summer's end
- 34 Mistle insect
- 35 Command to Meaduff
- 36 Ululatas
- 37 Narrow inlet
- 38 Hang fire
- 39 Former NBC drama
- 40 10-Dawn recipient
- 41 Callulite sites
- 42 Skating figure
- 43 Observe the Sabbath
- 44 Swizzle
- 45 Words accompanied by a sigh
- 46 City near Phoenix
- 47 Sonar spot
- 48 Baryshnikov's birthplace
- 49 Wild hog
- 50 Dope
- 51 "la gueme"



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FOR INVESTMENT INFORMATION

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THE MONEY REPORT

every Saturday in the IHT.

ASIA/PACIFIC

Japan Data Raise Fear Of Deflation

TOKYO — Japan's economy is in a sad state, the government said Tuesday, as wholesale prices posted their largest decline in more than 10 years in April.

The weak data reignited fears of deflation and pushed down long-term interest rates to record low levels.

Japan's domestic wholesale price index fell 2.3 percent in April from a year earlier, the biggest drop since July 1987, the Bank of Japan said. The data provided more evidence that Japan's economy was experiencing deflation — a decline in the prices of goods and services — and dragged down the yield of the benchmark 10-year Japanese government bond to a record 1.3 percent.

The Economic Planning Agency said in its report for May that the economy was stagnant and conditions were becoming severe, maintaining its assessment of overall economic conditions from the previous month.

"There are some signs that the very bad economic uncertainty from late last year is subsiding," the agency said in its report. "But stagnant final demand is having an impact on the real economy, such as production and employment."

Ride Gets Bumpy for Makers of China's Bikes

SHANGHAI — In the titanic jumble of bicycle traffic that makes up the morning rush hour here, two brand names rule. Together, Phoenix Co. and Shanghai Forever Bicycle Co. sell nearly half of the bikes in the world's most populous country.

Now, the two state-owned bicycle makers — founded before the Communist revolution triumphed in 1949 — are hitting some frightening potholes. Faced with competition and saddled with aging, inefficient factories, both have watched sales stagnate and revenue tumble.

Looming over the future, a Phoenix executive said, is unemployment on a massive scale as China goes through the wrenching restructuring campaign orchestrated by Prime Minister Zhu Rongji.

"This will be a difficult year," the executive, Xu Dawei, said. "Without jobs, people won't have the extra spending power to buy bicycles."

There also are other problems. At one time, Phoenix bikes were known for their olive-green color and lightweight frames. Shanghai Forever produced clunkier models in black. The two now turn out bikes in a rainbow of colors — and new frame designs and modern braking and gear systems.

But competition to Shanghai Forever and Phoenix, whose basic models sell for about 500 yuan (\$60) each, is coming from high and low. At the top end, multispeed racers and mountain bikes are flooding in from as close as Taiwan and as far away as France.

The biggest challenge, though, comes from the bottom. Across the vast country, thousands of small shops are putting together their own simple bikes, often recycled from junked or even stolen parts. Depending on their condition, the bikes go for half the price of the brand-name models or less.

"They don't care about safety standards," said Wang Yanzhong, deputy marketing manager at Shanghai Forever. "Their aim is to undercut prices and win customers."

Seizing a market trend, Shanghai Forever is taking on the "chop shops" with a new line of cheaper bikes. Mr. Wang said the company would open plants to turn out lower-priced bicycles.

Even so, sales for both principal manufacturers are projected to decline 15 percent this year. In 1997, Shanghai Forever's revenue fell 2 percent, to 726.8 million yuan. Phoenix's edged up 1.3 percent last year, to 1.57 billion yuan.

Nevertheless, on the Shanghai Stock Exchange, Shanghai Forever's A shares, which can be held only by domestic investors, finished Tuesday at 8.80 yuan, down 0.20 for the day but up 2.43, or 38 percent, since the start of the year. Phoenix's A shares rose 0.02 yuan to 9.14 and have risen

3.58, or 64 percent, so far this year. Chinese exporters of bicycles also are suffering. Shenzhen China Bicycle Group, based in the liberalized economic zone bordering Hong Kong, saw sales drop and its share price plunge more than 45 percent in the past six months. Much of the decline was attributed to the economic slowdown in Asia.

China is still a nation of bicycle riders, with about 320 million bikes registered. Three of every five people use a bicycle as their primary mode of transportation.

But competition is growing, not just from foreign brands and secondhand shops but from the internal combustion engine. In Shanghai, private automobiles number little more than 4,000, but there are as many as 400,000 mopeds, or motorized scooters. That compares with the city's 8 million bicycles.

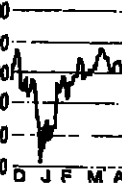
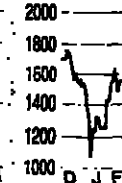
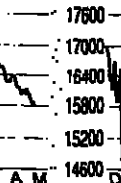
The stagnant bicycle market mirrors the general slowdown in economic growth, which fell to a 7.2 percent annual rate in the first quarter of the year, short of the government's target of 8 percent.

Other manufacturing industries have been hurt, too. Televisions, refrigerators, air conditioners and clothes are piling up in warehouses as Chinese rein in their spending.

Beijing is prodding Shanghai Forever and Phoenix to modernize their outdated technology, streamline management and cut their bloated payrolls as part of the national push that is expected to cut 23 million jobs at state-owned companies.

Phoenix dismissed 2,000 workers last year and plans to lay off another 2,000 this year.

Investor's Asia

Hong Kong Hang Seng	Singapore Straits Times	Tokyo Nikkei 225
		
Exchange	Index	Tuesday Close
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	Prev. Close
Singapore	Straits Times	% Change
Sydney	All Ordinaries	
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	
Kuala Lumpur	Composite	
Bangkok	SET	
Seoul	Composite Index	
Taipei	Stock Market Index	
Manila	PSE	
Jakarta	Composite Index	
Wellington	NZSE-40	
Bombay	Sensitive Index	

Tuesday's 4 P.M.

The 1,000 most traded National Market securities
in terms of dollar value, updated twice a year.
The Associated Press.

[illegible][illegible]

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AU - Australian Dollars; CA - Canadian Dollars;
DE - Deutsche Mark; DK - Danish Kroner; Do - US
Dollars; ECU - European Currency Unit; FF - French
Francs; FIM - Finnish Mark; Ft - Dutch
Guilder; GBP - Indonesian Rupiah; Li - Italian Lire;
L - Luxembourg Franc; M - Mexican Pesos;
MYR - Malaysian Ringgit; P - Pounds; S\$ -
Singapore Dollars; SF - Swiss Francs; SEK -
Swedish Kroner; THB - Thai Baht; Y - Yen.

S - *said* = "Other Data"; N.A. - "Not Available";
N.C. - "Not Communicated"; N - "Near"; S -
"suspended"; S.S. - "stock split"; E - "Ex-Dividend";
E-Prs. - "Other Prices listed in US dollars, change;
* - "other currency"; * - "Australian exchange"; S -
"Suspended"; * - "Other Data"; R - "Regulatory
authority"; R - "Middle of bid and offered
price"; E - "estimated price"; y - "price calculated 2
days prior to publication"; z - "bid price".

The marginal symbols indicated frequency of
quotations supplied: (b) - daily; (w) - weekly; (bi-
monthly); (q) - quarterly; (y) - yearly.

WORLD ROUNDUP



Jones sprinting to the second-fastest women's 100 meters time.

Jones Moving Fast

ATHLETICS Marion Jones became the second-fastest woman in history Tuesday when she won a 100-meter race in Chengdu, China, in 10.71 seconds.

Jones' run, in gray, damp conditions, moved her past Merlene Ottey of Jamaica, who has run 10.74, as the second-fastest woman ever. The world record, held by Florence Griffith-Joyner, is 10.49. Jones, a 22-year-old American, finished well ahead of Savannah Fynes, second at 11.06, and Fynes' fellow Bahamian, Chandra Surup, third at 11.09. (AP)

Bird Is Coach of the Year

BASKETBALL Larry Bird, the first-year coach of the Indiana Pacers, was named the National Basketball Association coach of the year Tuesday.

Bird received 50 of a possible 116 votes from sports writers and broadcasters. Jerry Sloan of Utah was second with 29 votes and Mike Fratello of Cleveland was third with 15. (AP)

Pitino's Horse Breaks Leg

HORSE RACING Halory Hunter, which is owned by Rick Pitino, the Boston Celtics' coach, broke a leg Tuesday during a workout at Pimlico Race Course where he was preparing for the Preakness, the second part of the Triple Crown, on Saturday. The colt had finished fourth in the Kentucky Derby.

Indian Charlie, which finished third in the Derby, will also miss the Preakness. He was withdrawn by trainer Bob Baffert, who was not pleased with his workouts. (AP)

Swedes Roll Over Swiss

ICE HOCKEY Peter Forsberg scored twice as Sweden beat Switzerland, 4-1, Tuesday in Zurich in the first leg of a two-match semifinal at the World Championships.

The United States, meanwhile, could disappear from the championships. It lost 3-2 to Latvia on Monday and must play in a qualifier in November to keep its place in the event. Jeff Jackson, the U.S. head coach, said he doubts the United States would send a team during the National Hockey League season. "There will be no players available," he said. (AP)

Friendship and Duty: Vialli's Tough Call for Cup Final

Vantage Point/ROB HUGHES

STOCKHOLM — Arguably the test of man-management in sport is having the wisdom and courage to tell a star that, for his and the team's good, he is not selected for the major final he has striven a decade to win.

Gianluca Vialli, player-coach to Chelsea, has until Wednesday evening to decide whether to gamble on the form and fitness of Gianfranco Zola for the European Cup Winners' Cup final against VfB Stuttgart in the Rasunda Stadium in Stockholm. To compound the situation Vialli is a manager of barely two months' standing — and he and Zola are contemporaries, friends and Chelsea's best possible attacking partnership.

You can, of course, ask a friend to be honest about his physical shape after a debilitating injury. With Zola, in particular, you usually get total honesty anyway. It shines through his performance, through his comments, through his reliability in relationships. He may be the smallest character on the pitch, but in truthfulness he stands tallest.

On Wednesday, however, he could delude himself. His motivation is not just to play a cup final. Nor is it limited by desire to atone for a below par night in Copenhagen four years ago when he was part of the Parma side that lost, 1-0,

to Arsenal in the final of this competition. Overriding those reasons, Zola's compelling wish is to prove to Cesare Maldini, the Italy team coach, that he is fit and deserving of a World Cup place next month.

Without a big performance, one of his irresistible best, Zola is most likely to be dropped. A year ago, he was a key Italian player; now he could be a non-starter when it counts. His decline, doubtless caused by a long-term groin injury, coincides with the rejuvenation of the Bologna midfielder Roberto Baggio.

Maldini will not ignore what occurs in the Rasunda when at least one Italian World Cup starter, Roberto di Matteo, also wears Chelsea blue. Whenever Vialli has selected a team for European games, the Italian trio has been the core of it, even if in English league competition no-one knows from week to week what his line-up might be.

There is a statement here — and results have proved it correct — for continental competitions Vialli prefers Italian craft and know-how. Wednesday will be his eighth European final, and no-one who was in Rome in 1996 will forget Vialli's extraordinary leadership,

spirit and athleticism as he lifted Juventus to the Champions' Cup.

"The three European finals I won," he says, "I remember very well. I have a picture in mind of wonderful nights. It's an indescribable moment when you lift the cup and you scream with your supporters. The ones I lost, I hardly remember."

Those feelings are complicated by duty now. Duty, first and foremost to the team and then, though Vialli might try to cancel this out too, to friendship that brought him and Zola to Chelsea as soul mates last season. Zola will soon be 32. Vialli 34. They have trusted one another unquestioningly, possibly apart from one moment 18 months ago, when Vialli claimed a goal that might have been Zola's.

Television replays suggested there was daylight between the ball and Vialli's bald pate, but Vialli, having rapaciously milked the applause, insisted he felt something, a hair's breadth touch, that slightly deflected Zola's goal-bound shot. Zola smiled and said if his friend felt a touch, then he was happy for Luca to be the scorer. At the time, Vialli's need was desperate: Ruud

Gullit, the previous coach, had a habit of starting Vialli of matchplay.

Gullit is gone, unceremoniously sacked by Ken Bates, the club chairman, who claims Gullit dithered too long and demanded too much in contract negotiations. Vialli replaced him, and who knows with another turn of the wheel Zola might be next.

This is Chelsea's un-British way of trusting foreigners to regain the glory that 27 years ago took the West London club to Athens, where it beat Real Madrid in the Cup Winners' Cup final. That 1971 Chelsea team is still lauded for its cavalier attitudes. Peter Osgood, Charlie Cooke, Tommy Baldwin and Alan Hudson could play like Latins and drink like English navvies.

If Hudson were to raise a glass on Wednesday, it will be fruit juice. For he lies in the London Hospital where he was taken last December, at death's door from a blood clot on the brain and shattered pelvis after being struck by a hit-and-run motorist. Slowly, slowly, Hudson is pulling through.

As a player, a thoroughbred, he knows the signs that Zola is defying pain. Zola's groin injury began a year ago when he helped Chelsea win the FA Cup. This season, for Italy and for Chelsea, he often tried to run off that

persistent strain, losing the vivacity that makes him so elusive. The damaged tissue "exploded" 30 minutes into a match against Liverpool on April 25.

Zola went to the beach at Rimini, working to a program set by Geremia Mimmo Pezza, the physiotherapist for Italy's national team, and returned convinced he is mended. Vialli must watch him train, and see if he friendship and team interest can go hand-in-hand.

"I'm very happy to have Gianfranco back. He's such a good player and another weapon," said Vialli on Tuesday. "It's very important for him to play in the final and to show Italy he's one of the best players they can choose."

For Stuttgart, Krassimir Balakov, the Bulgarian, is the thinker, plotter, conductor who sets up Fredi Bobic and Jonathan Akpoborie to score.

Balakov needs no medical Wednesday. His temperament, on the other hand, is questioned after, allegedly, he snapped on the flight to Stockholm on Monday, slapping and head-butting a journalist whose story riled him. Balakov appears up for the fight: Zola thinks he is. In the best sporting tradition, may the best men win.

Rob Hughes is a sports correspondent of The Times of London.

Dispute Imperils Final Of Cup in Amsterdam

UEFA Says Airport Cannot Handle Traffic

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NYON, Switzerland — The Champions Cup final, the most prestigious event in the European soccer season, is under threat because of an argument about landing slots at Schiphol Airport in the Netherlands.

UEFA, the governing body of European soccer, threatened Tuesday to move the final, scheduled for Amsterdam next Wednesday, because Schiphol could

not handle all the charter flights carrying the teams, officials and thousands of fans to the game.

UEFA said the two finalists, Real Madrid and Juventus, had offered to play a two-legged final with games in Madrid and Turin if the problem could not be resolved. UEFA said it had not accepted that proposal.

Dutch officials say the maximum number of takeoffs and landings at the busy airport has already been reached. Annemarie Jorritsma, the Dutch transport minister, has refused to relax the rules. Dutch authorities have recently limited takeoffs and landings because of protests over noise.

Fans could also arrive by train, but a strike by Dutch railway workers is threatened for the same day.

"Even the flights due to transport the players of the two clubs have not had permission to land at the airport," UEFA said.

Air France has canceled the flight that was to bring the Juventus team to the city for the match.

The Dutch soccer association said that about 160 charter flights had been arranged to bring 30,000 Italian and Spanish fans but that, at the moment, Schiphol could not accept them.

UNITED STATES National team players are arguing with the U.S. federation over who should pay for players' families to travel to the World Cup in France.

Mark Levinstein, a lawyer for the players, said the federation should pay hotel, airline and ticket expenses for

players' spouses and parents, as it did during the 1990 World Cup in Italy.

But the federation says the players rejected the inclusion of those costs in their collective-bargaining agreement.

"That was not a benefit negotiated on behalf of the players," said Alan Rothenberg, the federation president. "It was totally different in 1990 than today. The players were not paid the kind of money they are now. They don't need to look for a handout from the federation to bring their families along. They are very handsomely paid."

Each U.S. player will receive \$20,000 for being on the final 22-man roster and \$5,000 for each World Cup game the team plays. The players would split an additional \$1.2 million should the United States advance to the second round, \$1.5 million if the team reaches the semifinals and \$2.5 million for winning the championship.

The men's soccer team is the only U.S. national team that is unionized. David Regis, still awaiting citizenship, practiced with the U.S. national team for the first time Monday as the Americans opened their World Cup training camp in San Diego.

Regis, 29, is a Frenchman born in Martinique. He married an American woman three years ago. The U.S. Soccer Federation expects to find out this week whether he will be granted citizenship before World Cup rosters are finalized June 2. Regis scored five goals this season for Karlsruhe in Germany's Bundesliga.

"I think I'll get my citizenship," Regis said through a translator. COLOMBIA A Colombian appeals court decided Monday that Wilson Perez, a veteran international, could not travel to France for the World Cup. Perez, a 30-year-old defender, is on bail after being found guilty of drug trafficking.

AUSTRALIA David Hill, the chairman of Soccer Australia, said Tuesday that Australian officials were working on a bid to host the 2010 World Cup.

AP, Reuters, AFP, WP



Pat Rafter returning a backhand to Sjeng Schalken, who won their match Tuesday at the Italian Open.

Sampras Rises to Conquer Rome Jinx

The Associated Press

ROME — Pete Sampras ended his Italian Open jinx Tuesday, winning a match at the clay-court event for the first time in four years.

Sampras played erratically but solidly enough on his least favorite surface to beat Thomas Enqvist, 7-6 (7-3), 6-4, after trailing by 1-4 in the first set.

"Obviously I didn't start off very good, but as the match wore on I started feeling better," Sampras said. "It's still clay-court tennis. It's difficult to move. But I was able to get the length right on my strokes."

Sampras is in Rome to prepare for the French Open, which starts May 25. The French tournament is the only Grand Slam event played on clay and the only one that has eluded Sampras.

Sampras won the Italian Open in

1994, then lost first-round matches in 1995 and 1997. He did not enter two years ago.

Sampras' serve, clocked at 125 miles (200 kilometers) per hour, was a factor in his victory.

"The conditions are playing very quick," he said. "It was almost like playing on a hard court out there. I was hitting a lot of service winners and aces."

Patrick Rafter's first clay-court tournament in nearly a year ended quickly when he lost to Sjeng Schalken, a late replacement. In his first match on the surface since he reached the French Open semifinals a year ago, Rafter, the No. 4 seed, lost by 6-3, 6-7 (4-7), 6-4, in a match that lasted nearly three hours in temperatures topping 85 degrees Fahrenheit (29 degrees centigrade).

Schalken, ranked 57th in the world, learned that he would play just an hour before the match. Rafter's scheduled opponent, Marc Rosset, pulled out with a back injury, and Schalken, a "lucky loser" earlier in the week, was drafted. He had lost in the qualifying tournament to Giorgio Galimberti of Italy, who is ranked 235th.

Schalken said he had planned to go home Tuesday.

"I was planning to leave tonight, but all the flights were full," he said. "I think I'll take Mr. Rosset out for dinner tonight."

Karol Kucera, seeded No. 10, also lost, 6-4, 6-3, to an Italian wild-card entrant, Vincenzo Santopadre. Three other seeded players — Petr Korda, Greg Rusedski and Joan Bjorkman — lost on Monday.

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

MAJOR LEAGUE STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

WEST DIVISION

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

WEST DIVISION

CENTRAL DIVISION

MAJOR LEAGUE STANDINGS

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AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

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SPORTS

A Kid Named O'Neal Bonds With Old-Timer

Lakers' Coach Pushes Star to Take Charge

By Joe Drape
New York Times Service

INGLEWOOD, California — Two kids bounce and roll on a big purple exercise ball in the middle of the locker room as a handful of Los Angeles Lakers wait to get to the showers. One of the kids is 18-month-old Chase Aldridge, the son of a front office employee. The other is Shaquille O'Neal, who drops his 7-foot-1-inch, 315-pound frame to the ground and plays Gulliver. It's hard to tell who's having more fun.

Not far away, Del Harris, the 60-year-old coach of the Lakers who has a bachelor's degree in religion and a master's in history to go with more than 1,000 games of work in the National Basketball Association, talks seriously about his \$17-million-a-year center's inner child.

"Shaqui still allows the child in him to participate in his life," Harris said. "He still likes to have fun."

They are a mismatched pair, O'Neal and Harris. The big man is a rapper and sometime actor who has been known to electrify his own locker room with impromptu verse during post-game celebrations. His coach bemoans the fact that he is "not a '90s kind of guy" and tends to cite Harry Truman as an example of how the tenacious succeed.

One thing they share, however, is the burden of bringing a National Basketball Association title to an impatient glamour franchise that has gone 10 years without championship jewelry.

"If we don't win, it's his fault first," O'Neal said of his coach, only half-joking. "Mine second."

It appears it will be a while before anyone has to divide up blame. The Lakers led Seattle, 3-1, in the Western Conference semifinals before the teams met Tuesday night in Seattle.

The Lakers, the youngest team in the playoffs, are averaging 103 points a game, tops in the league.

O'Neal has been at the center of the surge. He has scored 30 or more points in six of eight playoff games this spring.

"I'm a coachable player," the 26-year-old O'Neal insisted recently. "I may have come in with the young generation. But I listen. I don't make faces or talk back." Of Harris, O'Neal said: "He's the boss and I respect that. This is the world we live in."

O'Neal's thundering performances have done much to mute his world full of critics, who questioned whether his multimedia undertakings — acting and rapping — had helped leave his basketball promise unfulfilled.

"We're asking him to do everything," Harris said. "To be our leading scorer, our leading rebounder and shot blocker. To beat the other big man down the court because he can. To draw the defense to him and do commercials. He deserves to be recognized as a great player because he is."

The coach is sincere in his praise because, like O'Neal, he, too, knows how expectations quickly turn to criticism and how heavy a load that becomes.

Folksy and forgiving, Harris has been second-guessed in his fourth season for his handling of players long on talent and temper.

Recently, Harris has heard the Lakers' owner, Jerry Buss, say publicly how badly he wants, he needs, a championship. Harris has heard about musing by the Chicago Bulls' coach, Phil Jackson, in a newspaper column that he might like the Lakers' job next year.

So when Harris talks of O'Neal, there is a sense he is talking about himself, too.

"It's maturity and determination," said Harris, who in 12 NBA seasons has coached his way to the finals only once, in 1981 with the Rockets. "It's failing to achieve what you want to do enough times that you say, 'I really want this and maybe I won't have as many chances. It's here today, let's go get it.'"

The other day, O'Neal, up from the ground after horsing around with his toddler playmate, smiled affectionately when talking about Harris, his support and his old-fashioned ways. He said Harris, who has been known to literally bump his head against the wall when Harris's team meetings begin to meander. But it always has stayed in the locker room.

Jerry West, the Lakers' executive vice president of basketball operations, has watched O'Neal and Harris work on a relationship. West, a Laker legend himself, signed O'Neal two years ago and he has observed how the center's game and personality have begun to dominate contests. He credits Harris.

"Like Michael or Magic, he's become the focus and will of this team," West said. "When you have a young player, it takes time to get him where you want and it becomes wearing on both sides. But they've made it through some difficult times and now Shaqui is seeing results. He sees what Del has been trying to do running the offense through him. He trusts him."

Harris believes that O'Neal's upbringing in a military household, while full of benefits, might have held the center back. First with his stepfather, Philip Harrison, and then through his coaches, O'Neal was too willing to take orders rather than give them.

"He expects someone to be in charge," Harris said. "I think that's one thing that has retarded his progress in becoming a leader himself. It's only now he's coming to terms with that it's O.K. to exercise his will and not step out of place."

O'Neal has done so in the playoffs. He has taken to calling his teammates "my guys" and urged them to focus on their games while promising to carry them. He has got on his teammates through the newspapers — especially after a loss in Portland.

"They all read," O'Neal said with a wink. "I know what I'm doing."



The Cardinals' Ron Gant sliding home to beat the tag of Brewers' catcher Mike Matheny. The Cards won, 7-0.

Cubs Rookie Sets Pitching Record

The Associated Press

Kerry Wood is a phenom if ever there was one. The 20-year-old Cubs rookie set a major league record for strikeouts in consecutive starts, fanning 13 in a 4-2 victory against Arizona.

"I had no idea," Wood said after just his sixth start in the big leagues. "Great. I guess. To me, I had another good start."

NL Roundup

and we won the ballgame. The record is great, but it's just a bonus."

Coming off his record-tying 20-strikeout performance last Wednesday against Houston, Wood needed only seven innings Monday to reach 33. Throwing high, 97 mph fastballs and sharp, low-and-away sliders, Wood passed the previous total of 32 strikeouts in two games held by Nolan Ryan, Randy Johnson, Dwight Gooden and Luis Tiant.

"He was very impressive," said Devon White, who struck out leading off the first inning. "When we looked for off speed, he was throwing fastballs."

Wood showed he could hit, too, with a pair of run-scoring singles. His baserunning might need a bit of brushing up — he was caught in a rundown after taking a wide turn on his first hit.

Brewers 6, Reds 1 The Braves set a franchise record by homering in their 23rd straight game as Andrew Jones connected twice and Andres Galaraga hit a three-run shot at Cincinnati.

Jones gave Atlanta its record with a three-run drive in the first inning. The National League record is 24 by Brooklyn in 1953, and the New York Yankees and Detroit Tigers share the major league record of 25. The Braves have hit 43 homers during their streak.

Greg Maddux (5-2) won his third straight start as Atlanta won for the 12th time in 14 games.

Cardinals 7, Brewers 0 Todd Stottlemyre struck out 13 in eight impressive innings as St. Louis stopped a four-game losing streak. Milwaukee lost in its first visit to Busch Stadium since the 1982 World Series.

Stottlemyre allowed two hits in eight innings, and retired his final 18 batters. He walked none.

Ray Lankford broke an 0-for-14 slump with a two-run homer and two

doubles. Brian Jordan and Ron Gant also homered as Scott Karl (4-1) suffered his first loss of the season.

Padres 2, Mets 1 Kevin Brown out-pitched former Marlins teammate Al Leiter, and Wally Joyner singled home the go-ahead run in the eighth inning at San Diego.

Brown, who started Game 6 of last year's World Series for Florida, won for the first time in five starts. Leiter, who started Game 7, pitched a five-hitter.

New York had its four-game winning streak stopped. The Mets had not played since Friday because of rain.

Astros 5, Marlins 2 Houston won for the 12th time in 15 games, taking advantage of a pair of sixth-inning errors to beat Livan Hernandez in Houston.

Hernandez (2-3), the MVP of last year's World Series, struck out nine in his first regular-season complete game. He gave up 11 hits and walked three.

Phillies 5, Dodgers 2 Matt Beech earned his first victory of the season, helping himself with a pair of hits at Dodger Stadium. Philadelphia won its fifth in a row.

Beech (1-2) gave up five hits in 6½ innings. He went 2-for-3 and scored a run as the Phillies outthrew Los Angeles 15-5.

Giants 7, Expos 2 Barry Bonds and Jeff Kent hit consecutive home runs, leading San Francisco over Montreal for its fifth straight home victory.

Pirates 5, Rockies 2 Jason Schmidt won his fourth straight decision, pitching Pittsburgh past visiting Colorado.

Schmidt (5-1) did not win his fifth game last year until July 25. The Pirates won for the fifth time in seven games.

Devil Rays' Pitcher Wows Indians and His Manager

The Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Florida — Rolando Arroyo impressed his manager as much in one inning as he had all season.

The Cuban defector had already pitched seven impressive innings Monday night against Cleveland Indians, to follow three-hit, complete-game shutouts against Minnesota and Kansas City, before the inning that drew special praise from Larry Rothschild, the Tampa Bay manager.

The eighth inning was probably the most impressive inning he'd thrown all season, said Rothschild after the Devil Rays won, 4-2.

After giving up a leadoff double to Kenny Lofton, who scored on Omar Vizquel's single, the 29-year-old rookie got David Justice to hit into a force play, struck out Jim Thome and retired Manny Ramirez on a ground ball.

Rothschild had already decided Arroyo would not pitch his third straight complete game.

Arroyo (5-2) struck out six and walked two in eight innings.

Orioles 4, Twins 0 Scott Erickson pitched a five-hitter against his former team and Rafael Palmeiro and Roberto Alomar homered as resurgent Baltimore won in Minneapolis.

Erickson, who has allowed a major league-high 71 hits, sent the Twins to their second successive shutout loss and their ninth loss in 13 games. Baltimore has won three of four.

Rangers 8, Red Sox 2 Rusty Greer, Kevin Elster and Ivan Rodriguez homered at Arlington as Texas won its fourth straight.

Juan Gonzalez drove in two runs with a groundout, giving him a major league-leading 48 runs batted in. Rodriguez got his 1,000th career hit as Texas stopped Boston's three-game winning streak.

AL Roundup

The Jitters returned less than three minutes later when Zednik caught Rhodes flatfooted, with a hard slap shot to make the score 4-3.

Rhodes made 14 saves. His final save was a masterpiece and it came when it seemed the Capitals were going to spoil the night. Rhodes slid across the crease and made a dazzling pad stop on Zednik with nine seconds left and Kolzig off for an extra attacker.

The Senators have not lost in four playoff games at home.

Stars 4, Oilers 0 In Edmonton, Benoit Hogue scored at 13:07 of overtime to lift the Dallas Stars to victory.

Hogue rifled a high wrist shot over the left shoulder of the Oilers goaltender, Curtis Joseph, as the Stars took a two-games-to-one lead in the series.

The goal came when an Oiler defenseman, Janne Niinimaa, who has been a tower of strength for Edmonton, botched a clearing attempt from his corner. Ed Belfour bested Joseph in a terrific goaltending duel, making 28 saves as the teams each had 28 shots.

NHL Playoffs

in a series that had seemed to be rapidly slipping away.

Alfredsson, who slammed his stick against the glass in frustration and was given a misconduct after Washington scored six goals on its last six shots of Saturday night's 6-1 victory, scored all three of his goals in the first period to take over the goal-scoring lead in the playoffs with seven. The hat trick came against Olaf Kolzig, a goalie who had stopped 292 of the 308 shots he had faced in eight previous playoff games.

The Senators took control early on. Washington's Esa Tikkanen knocked a shot by Alfredsson into the Washington net on an Ottawa power play just 5:24 into the game. Kolzig had no chance on the goal — he was lying helpless on his back in the crease after a terrific pad save.

Alfredsson made it 2-0 at 8:17 when he redirected Randy Cunneen's shot from behind the net past Kolzig.

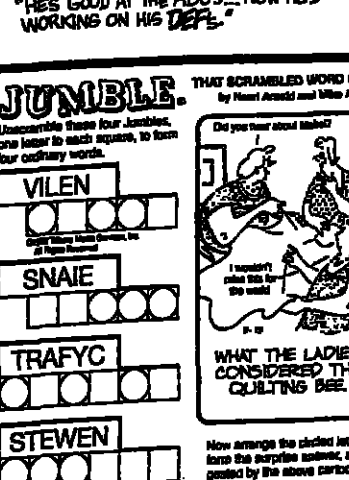
Sergei Gonchar retaliated for Washington with a similar goal, scoring on a power play midway through the period off a feed from Andrei Nikolishin. It was his fifth goal of the playoffs, tops among defencemen.

Alfredsson made it 3-1 with a nifty deflection at 16:58. Chris Phillips' shot from just inside the blue line bounced off a defenseman right to Alfredsson, and he caught Kolzig by surprise with a quick flip of his stick.

Washington closed to 3-2 on Peter Bondra's power-play goal just 1:08 into the second period. Bondra slapped in the rebound of a shot by Richard Zednik.

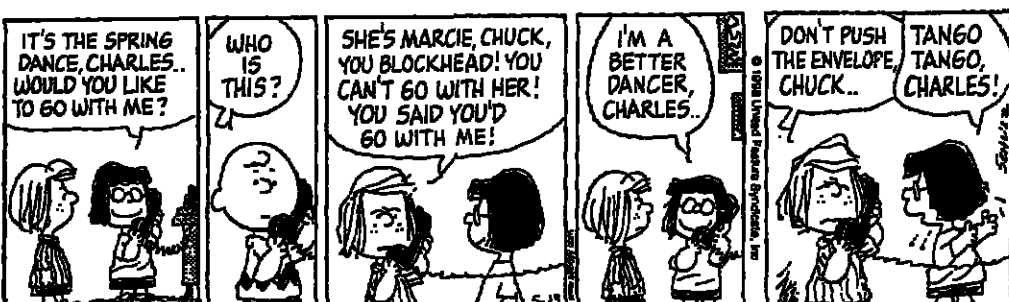
Alexei Yashin scored his fifth goal of the playoffs, at 10:54, to restore the Senators' two-goal lead.

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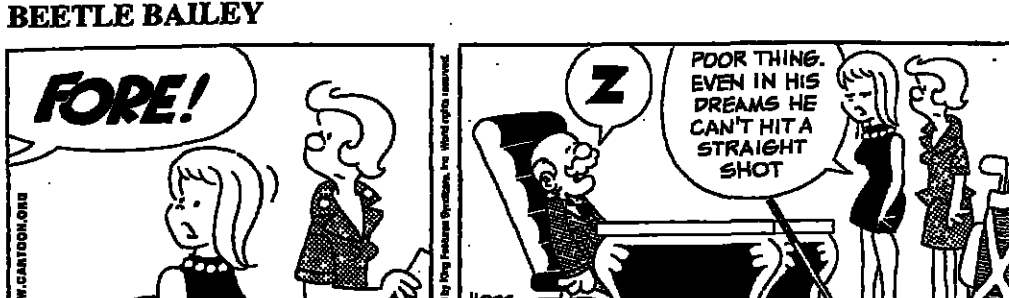
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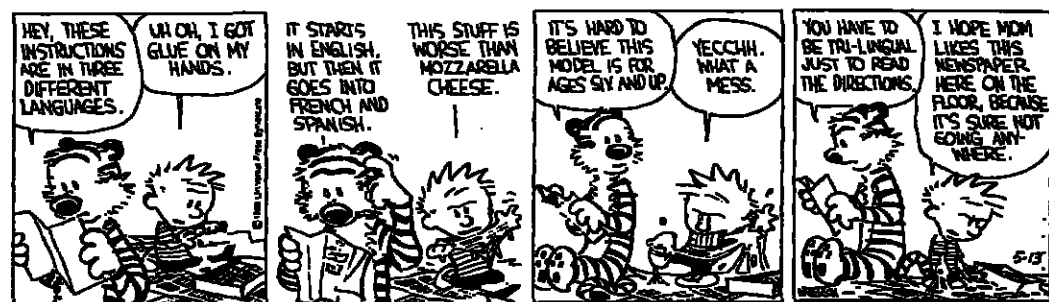
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OBSERVER

Clanking Chains

By Russell Baker

NEW YORK — Why Kenneth Starr had Susan McDougal shipped in chains to Little Rock is not clear. My first guess was that he wanted to show his utter indifference to the black arts of public relations. A more slyly prosecutive might have reasoned that his image would suffer gravely if he were associated with a thousand TV clips showing a woman in chains.

The customary high-profile prosecutor, of course, is thinking of running for high office after bagging his quarry. Starr quite obviously is not. "Image be damned," he must have said to himself. "Let her be brought in chains."

It won't do to say that chains are required by rules for moving convicts, because there was no apparent reason for moving Susan McDougal. She had made it amply clear beforehand that, if brought before his grand jury in Little Rock, she would not give Starr the testimony he craved. This, he seems to think, is stuff that would help him nail the Clintons for criminal involvement in the Whitewater fiasco.

The beauty part for a prosecutor who is not worried about his image: There might be powerful advantages in those shifts of McDougal chained. Surely they would be seen by Monica Lewinsky. She must have heard the subliminal message: "Monica, dear child, we have ways of making you talk."

That sexual branch of the Starr investigations brings to mind H.L. Mencken's response when asked to comment on the then shocking statistics published in the Kinsey Report on Human

Sexuality. It just confirmed, said Mencken, what he had always suspected: that everybody lies about his sex life.

It would have been noted too by Sidney Blumenthal, the White House news spinner who recently refused to answer grand jury questions about his spinning ability. Blumenthal looked ebullient telling the press he'd kept his lip buttoned. No spin secrets out of this baby, news hawks.

This week, however, a court ruled that White House workers were legally obliged to tell everything about noncosmic activities like spinning. Blumenthal may now be called for another grand jury event.

He, too, has surely seen film of McDougal in chains. "You hear the message, Sidney? Once we nail you, we can ship you around the country in chains and a blindingly bold orange jailbird suit."

What would be the consequences of a presidency wrecked by Starr's zeal to turn up something that will justify his long, expensive investigations? A third national nightmare to round out a history that started with Vietnam, proceeded to Watergate and lurched on to whatever historians may call it.

Clinton sympathizers think their man is the victim of conservative Republicans set on bounding him out of office, as many Republicans believe Richard Nixon was bounded out of office a generation ago. If the bounding succeeds, maybe even if it doesn't, we can expect a nasty time with vengeance politics bringing out the absolute worst in the people we call our leaders.

Starr's ranting of the chains has probably started something we shall all regret, for though it is in a dull season.

A Biologist Dreams of the Unity of Knowledge

By Nicholas Wade
New York Times Service

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts — Laid out on a desk in Harvard's Museum of Comparative Zoology is a neat array of white-sided boxes, each with pinned specimens of ants belonging to the genus *Phaeodole*. Edward O. Wilson is writing a monograph on the genus, the world's largest. There are 326 new species, many of which he discovered himself, and each is in need of a precise description and a scientific name. The work is pure taxonomy. "Scientific knitting," he calls it.

The "knitting" is no doubt mental relaxation from the soaring works of synthesis that are Wilson's other passion. Or maybe both are the products, on different scales, of a mind that loves to classify and discover patterns in the world's unruly substance.

In an alternative fate, Wilson might have been an obscure expert on the ants of Alabama, his home state. But at each stage of his career he has looked outward, trying to see how the scholarly patch he had cultivated might fit into some larger scheme of things. And because so few scholars dare to explore beyond the boundaries of their own narrow fields, Wilson has produced an original work of synthesis time after time.

His first foray outside the ant microcosm was "The Insect Societies," published in 1971, which surveyed the evolution of sociality among wasps, ants, bees, and termites. It seemed only logical to extend the synthesis to vertebrates, humans included, though no one else had attempted so obvious a task. "Sociobiology" appeared in 1975, immediately falling under political attack from leftist colleagues who objected to the idea that certain human behaviors might have genetic determinants.

"He was taken to task in an unfair way," says Thomas Eisner, a Cornell University biologist and longtime friend, "but his ideas are not arrived at lightly." The ideas of sociobiology were many years in the making, Eisner says.

Wilson was blindsided and bruised by the attack but undeterred. He expanded his ideas about the mind's genetic history in "On Human Nature," which appeared in 1978. Then he turned to other matters, like writing a comprehensive survey of ants with his colleague Bert Hölldobler and becoming a champion for the world's disappearing rain forests.



Edward Wilson and his large-scale model of a Central American leaf ant.

Twenty years later, Wilson has returned to the theme of genes and human nature. His new work of synthesis is called, a little forbiddingly, "Consilience," a word coined by the 19th-century philosopher of science William Whewell to mean the melding of inferences drawn from separate subjects. Wilson has resurrected it as the slogan for a program of unrivaled ambition: to unify all the major branches of knowledge — sociology, economics, the arts, and religion — under the banner of science and in particular of the biology that has shaped the human mind.

The kind of unification he proposes is the outright intellectual annexation that occurs when one field of knowledge becomes explainable in terms of a more fundamental discipline, as when thermodynamics (heat processes) was explained in terms of statistical mechanics (equations describing the movement of molecules). These put-together, which always constitute major advances yet are usually not much welcomed by scholars in the discipline being taken over — are termed "reductions" by philosophers of science.

How can economics, not to mention religion and aesthetics, be reduced to molecular biology? Wilson believes this will come about as biologists work out the behavioral

rules that evolution has built into the brain. These rules, the sum of which is human nature, define the framework in which economic, religious and aesthetic decisions are made and so should, he says, be made fundamental to those branches of study.

Wilson is well aware that people do not always warm to the idea of having their higher cognitive functions explained in terms of genetic programming. But he can see the revolution coming, the vanguard being led by the new approach to the brain called evolutionary psychology (another name for sociobiology, in his view).

Karl Marx, Wilson once joked when talking about ants, was correct: He just applied his theory to the wrong species. Ant societies, of course, are very different from the biped variety, but one common feature is the inherited nature of social behavior. Like any other feature of an organism, behavior can be shaped by evolution. Ants have evolved quite elaborate behaviors, but most are rigidly determined.

Human behaviors have also evolved for the purpose of survival. But unlike the programmed instincts of ants, these behaviors, Wilson believes, are governed by what he calls epigenetic rules, genetically based neural wiring that merely predisposes the

brain to favor certain types of action.

If the essence of human nature is sketched out by the genes, it follows that the major branches of knowledge — sociology, economics, ethics, and theology — are shaped by the mind's genetic framework and rest on a foundation of epigenetic rules. The unified tree of knowledge, as envisaged in "Consilience," has physics at its root, leading to a trunk of chemistry, molecular biology and genetics, and everything else as its branches.

Wilson criticizes anthropologists and social scientists for having boxed themselves into ideological positions that deny any role for biologically based human nature. He faults economists for "closing off their theory from serious biology and psychology." Hence, economics is "still mostly irrelevant" and the esteem that economists enjoy "arises not so much from their record of success as from the fact that business and government have nowhere else to turn."

Ethicists, too, he says, have slipped into the fallacy of ignoring biological origins, in their case the origins of the moral instincts that govern behavior. Religion, in Wilson's view, also has epigenetic roots; it evolved from the human equivalent of animals' submissive behavior, and because belief in the supernatural conferred a survival value. Wilson realizes that he would not now win many votes for this proposition. "The human mind evolved to believe in the gods," he writes. "It did not evolve to believe in biology."

Darwinism is still an affront to many established ways of thought, and "Consilience," published by Knopf, is not a conciliatory book. It contains enough to disconcert almost everyone. The vigor and aggressiveness of its judgments contrast with the elegance of the writing and the mild and courteous nature of its author. Wilson, who is 68, grew up imbued with a respect for social order and civility, but in the course of overcoming personal handicaps and a difficult childhood he acquired an independent mind. "Ed, don't stay on trails when you collect insects," an adviser told him at the outset of his career. "You should walk in a straight line through the forest. Try to go over any barrier you meet. It's hard, but that's the best way to collect."

A straight line to faraway peaks has been his path ever since. "I set goals which are usually rather distant and hard to get to, like pointing toward higher mountains," he says. "And I organize my life around that goal."

PEOPLE

NO ONE steals the show from Jerry Seinfeld. Security cameras caught fans looting the set of "Seinfeld" a few days after the taping of the show's final episode on April 11, according to The New Yorker. The magazine said writers and other staffers from a neighboring show sneaked onto the set and stole salt and pepper shakers from the coffee shop where the characters hang out. One person used a knife to pry the intercom from the wall in Jerry's apartment. A few days later, one of the looters got a call from Seinfeld, who apparently wanted the intercom for his own collection of memorabilia. The looter at first denied taking the intercom. The New Yorker said, but then fessed up and returned it. He still has a Polaroid photograph of himself with the intercom.

The actors Matt Damon and Ed Norton showed up at the annual World Series of Poker in Las Vegas, Nevada. The actors, who play poker players in the movie "Rounders," entered the no-limit Texas Hold'em contest, which has an estimated purse of \$1 million. Damon sat with one of the country's top poker players, Doyle Brunson. "I just don't want to be the first one out," Damon said. He was gone three hours later.

Well known for creating dances in places like New York rooftops, museum walls, the edges of buildings and floating rafts, the choreographer Trisha Brown is in Brussels to direct Monteverdi's "Orfeo" at La Monnaie. To create movement

and gesture to amplify the emotional and moral power of the 1607 opera about the death-defying power of love and art. Brown gave the entire cast of 60 singers dance training. In a new approach to the tale based on Greek myth, she has combined elements of both endings created by Monteverdi.

Mstislav Rostropovich will perform three works for cello as part of the National Symphony Orchestra's Russian Festival, at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington.

Stalking Lizzie Borden's Lawyer

The Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD, Massachusetts — Researchers want Lizzie Borden's lawyer to come clean. Some 105 years after she was acquitted of killing her parents, papers relating to her trial are locked up at the Springfield law firm founded by George Robinson, Borden's lawyer.

Researchers say the claims of history override the obligation of confidentiality the lawyer had to his client. In particular, they want to know whether the files contain the Holy Grail of Borden scholarship: a confession.

But a lawyer for the Massachusetts Board of Bar Overseers says: "The duty to protect confidential information survives death in Massachusetts. That's clear."

The festival has brought Rostropovich, the orchestra's conductor laureate, back to the National Symphony for the first time since 1994. His performance Thursday will be his first with the orchestra under the direction of Leonard Slatkin.

Prince Johan Friso, second in line to the Dutch throne, will work as a banker for Goldman Sachs starting in August, Dutch newspapers have reported. The 29-year-old prince will be based in London, dealing with mergers and takeovers.

The manuscript of Igor Stravinsky's "Sacre du Printemps" has gone on display at the Pierpont Morgan Library in New York in an exhibition of manuscripts and letters of some 60 leading composers of the 20th century. Among them are Bela Bartok, Pierre Boulez, John Cage, Gustav Mahler, Arnold Schoenberg, Dmitri Shostakovich and Anton Webern. The exhibition, "Settling New Scores: Music Manuscripts From the Paul Sacher Foundation," runs through Aug. 30.

The Clinton loyalist James Carville is writing a book for Simon & Schuster on the independent counsel Kenneth Starr and those he calls "the president's enemies." Its tentative title is, "... And the Horse You Rode In On." The book may come out in the fall. Its author has few concerns that Starr's investigation will be over by then.



Matt Damon weighing the odds in Las Vegas.

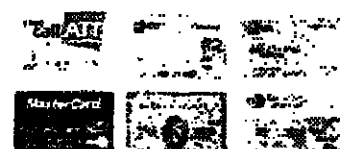


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